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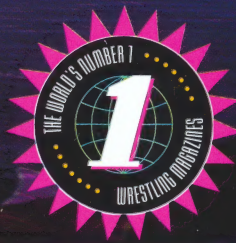


WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION[®]
M A G A Z I N E



HART AND SOUL

STONE COLD CRAZY?!—IS AUSTIN SET
TO UNLEASH HIS "SYCHOTIC" PLOT?



AUGUST 1997

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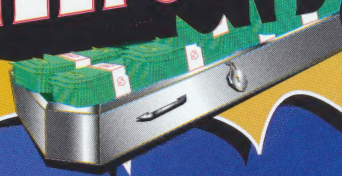
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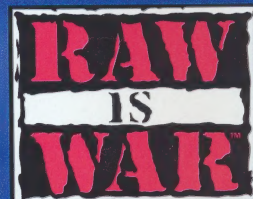
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MDCW2

CONTENTS

FEATURES

14 FROM THE HART

Bret On the Foundation... Like It... Or Not!!!

22 HAS STONE COLD GONE "SYCHO"?!

And Is He Ready to Unleash His Twisted Plot

26 LOOKING IN THE MIRROR?

Why Ahmed and Faarooq Can't Exist Without Each Other

32 JULY/AUGUST CALENDAR

It's Simply The BOMB!!!

38 DARTH VADER HAS NOTHIN' ON THESE GUYS!!!

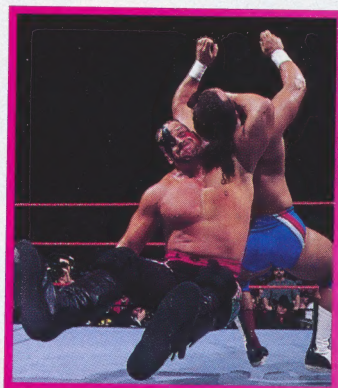
Are Furnas and LaFon Giving In To the Dark Side?

44 THE NIGHT THAT HELL "ALMOST" FROZE OVER!

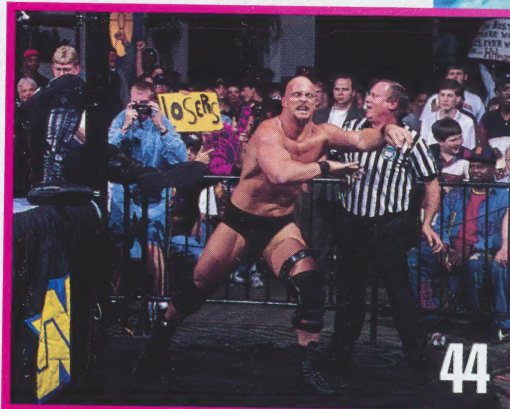
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52 TEN YEARS OF HEAT!!!

The History of SummerSlams



38



44

- 2 SECRET SUPERSTAR
- 3 FEDERATION FANATICS
- 4 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
- 6 THE BITE
- 8 ROOKIES TO LEGENDS
- 10 TALES FROM THE TURNBUCKLE
- 57 BARRED FROM THE BACK
- 60 PIN 'EM DOWN
- 62 PRIVATE EYE



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- 2 Because this month's Secret Superstar hates bullies, he will never turn down an "ultimate fight" from anyone who gets in his face!
- 3 This month's Secret Superstar's first priority in the Federation was to don the pinstripes and call it right down the middle... AND WE'RE NOT TALKING BASEBALL!
- 4 After having "Iron Mike" sidestep his challenge to get in the ring, this month's Secret Superstar thinks "Tyson Chicken" might put up a tougher fight!

The SECRET SUPERSTAR is:



ANSWER ON PAGE 64



WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®
M A G A Z I N E

VOLUME 16 NO. 8

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FEDERATION FANatics



Carey Vanderborg

Name: Carey Vanderborg

Age: Eight

Hometown: Jericho, New York

School: Walt Whitman Elementary

Grade: Third

Future Ambition: To become a lawyer!

Favorite Federation Superstar: Bret "Hit Man" Hart

Least Favorite Federation Superstar: Stone Cold Steve Austin

What I like best about the World Wrestling Federation:
The awesome action on RAW IS WAR!

If I were president of the World Wrestling Federation, I would: Suspend Federation superstars who get out of control!

What I do when I'm not watching the World Wrestling Federation:
I wrestle with my 10-year-old brother Josh!

Name: George Murad

Age: 14

Hometown: Sterling Heights, Michigan

School: Grissom Middle School

Grade: Eighth

Future Ambition: To become the World Wrestling Federation Champion

Favorite Federation Superstar: Stone Cold Steve Austin

Least Favorite Federation Superstar: Mankind

What I like best about the World Wrestling Federation:
Sunny, Sable and Marlena!

If I were president of the World Wrestling Federation, I would: Bring more live events to Detroit so I could meet all the superstars!

What I do when I'm not watching the World Wrestling Federation: Play my video games and listen to the "Full Metal" CD!



George Murad



TALKIN' THE TALK

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**WRITE us at:
World Wrestling Federation Magazine
c/o Vince Russo, Editor
P.O. Box 3859
Stamford, CT 06905**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter

Dear Editor,

I've been a regular reader of the *World Wrestling Federation Magazine* for almost three years now, but something Vic Venom said in the June issue really bothered me. I've read how the Informer thinks Ahmed Johnson will join the Nation of Domination, but now I have to hear it from Vic, too? Why would a guy who has spent the past year trying to abolish the Nation want to join it?

Eric Cherna
San Jose, CA

Dear Eric,

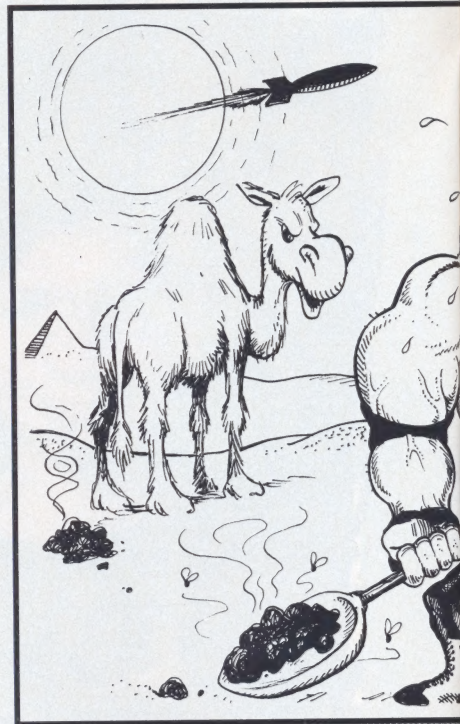
Great question... and the answer may lie in the pages of this very magazine.

E-mail

Dear Editor,

Don't you think it's about time Owen Hart or the British Bulldog get their respective shots at the Undertaker's World Wrestling Federation Title? The Bulldog is already a co-holder of the Federation Tag Team Title and the European Champion, while Owen is also a co-holder of the Tag Team Title and the Intercontinental Champion! I know Federation officials are bent on railroading these two into matches with Stone Cold Steve Austin, but don't you think they at least deserve their chances?

Rajan Kalra
NKalra8628@aol.com



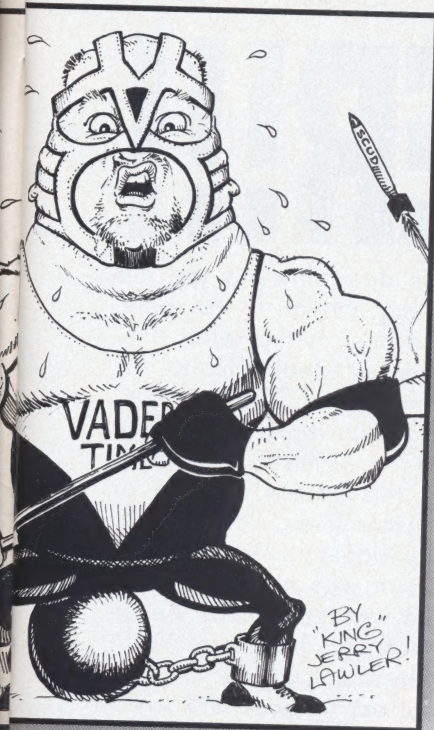
Dear Rajan,

You are right on the American money!!! The fans in the United States may not care much for ANY Hart these days, but you can't turn your back on what great athletes both Owen and Davey are. They will have their share of title shots in the future, you can bet the almighty American buck on it!

Fax

Dear Editor,

After watching Goldust spill his guts on *RAW IS WAR* in May, I have a whole new respect for Dustin Runnels both as an athlete and a man. It's a shame that he had to live in the shadow of his father for all those years. His "coming out" really gave us a feel for the great



amount of pressure that must have been weighing heavily on his shoulders from such a very young age. My question is: Do you think that you could do an interview with him in the *World Wrestling Federation Magazine*? We would love to hear more of what he had to say in addition to what was on *RAW IS WAR*! Nicolette Peterson
Dover, DE

Dear Nicolette,
Terrific suggestion, and you'll be happy to know that I'm already on it! In the September/October issue of *Raw Magazine*, there will be an in-depth interview with both Dustin and Terri where they will have the opportunity to go into more specific details concerning their feel-

ings and emotions than the restricted television time allowed them. As a close friend of theirs—I can't wait to have the conversation with the Runnelses!!!

E-mail

Dear Editor,

I used to be a big Bret Hart fan, but after he turned his back on America I think he deserved that leg injury that Stone Cold Steve Austin gave him! If he doesn't like America, then why doesn't the "Hit Man" just quit the World Wrestling Federation and go back to Canada and stay in Stu's dungeon? And as far as Bret wanting us to respect him, how can we do that when all he does is sneak attack people along with the rest of his family?

Josh Marwitz
Fig4@aol.com

Dear Josh,

I believe it was our forefathers who dubbed the United States the "Land of the Free". The freedom of speech in America allows Bret Hart to say whatever he wants to say... when he wants to say it! If you feel that you don't want to listen to his cryin', whinin', trivial ga-ga, then go take a cream soda break every time he pops up on the boob tube!!!

Letter

Dear Editor,

I am a longtime fan of the

World Wrestling Federation, and I wanted to point out an error in a Gorilla Monsoon judgment and get your opinion on it. Back in the 80s, I can remember when Bob Backlund—then Federation Champion—won the Tag Team Title with Pedro Morales. Officials forced Backlund to give up the title because the rules stated that a superstar could not hold more than one Federation Title at any given time. My question is: Why does Monsoon allow Owen Hart and the British Bulldog to hold two titles each when the rules state otherwise? Gary Gilmore
Brooklyn, NY

Dear Gary,

Are you going to tell them what they can... and cannot do? I think Gorilla Monsoon made the right decision when he decided to—MIND HIS OWN BUSINESS!!!

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- FRENCH CANADIAN REPORT: OPTION 7



HANG HEBNER!!!

Growing up in the sports mecca of New York City, I have seen just about everything in my day.

Joe "Willie" Namath in pantyhose. The miracle Mets of 1969. Ali-Frazier I. Mookie's dribbler through Bill Buckner's legs. The Gatorade-pourin' New York Giants. George Brett's pine tar incident. And, of course, most recently... the coup de grace... five morons leaving the bench forcing the Knicks to drop the ball to the Miami Heat in the second round of the playoffs!!!

BUT NEVER... I MEAN NEVER... HAVE I BEEN WITNESS TO SUCH A DISGRACE AS THE ONE THAT TOOK PLACE AT MAY'S IN YOUR HOUSE!!!

World Wrestling Federation head official EARL HEBNER should be tarred, feathered, lynched, whipped with a wet noodle and FIRED!!! Where does a LOWLY referee get off flipping the premier athlete of the World Wrestling Federation, Stone Cold Steve Austin, THE BIRD!!! That's right, the OL' UNCLE CHARLIE, as we used to call it on the

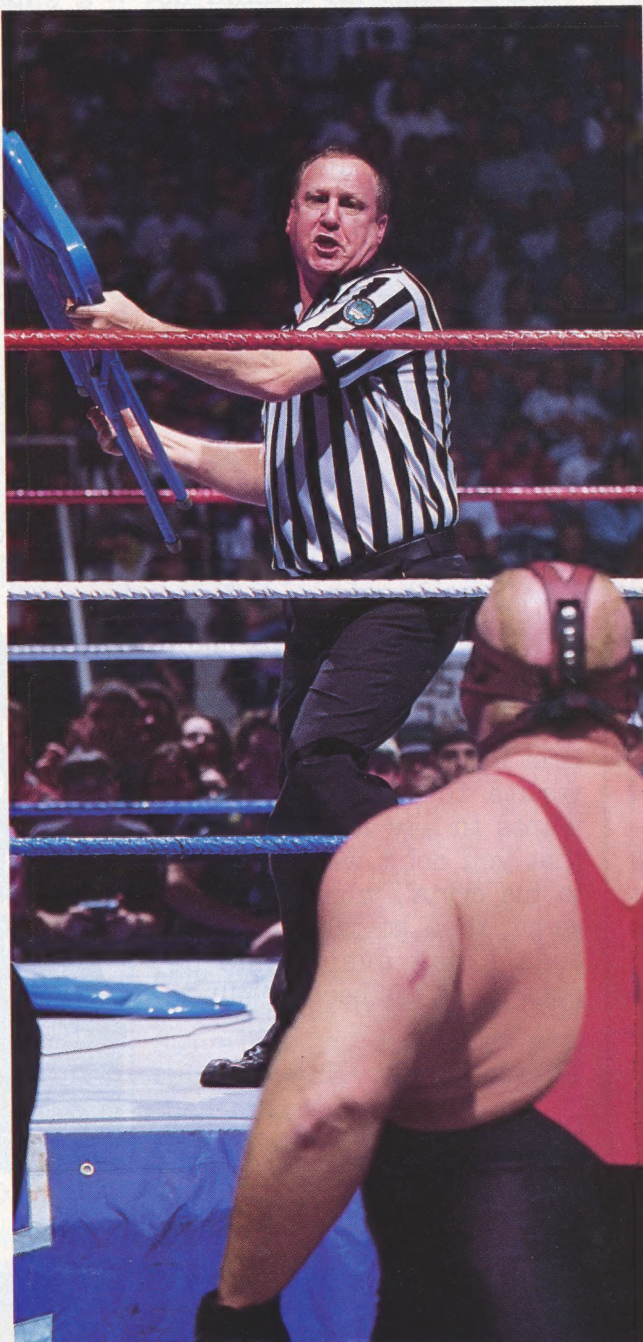
Brooklyn blacktop!!! THE SPIKE! THE EXCLAMATION POINT! THE FICKLE FINGER OF FATE!!! Is this wiry goofball kiddin' me... OR WHAT!!! Right there, in front of a worldwide pay-per-view audience, he gave the "Ice Man" the ICICLE!

Where does this guy get the cajones big enough to do something like this? Is this what they taught him at "Zebra School"? I mean, not even "The Worm" Dennis Rodman would stoop to an action as low as this!!! Albert Belle

is the spittin' image of Mother Teresa compared to this maniac!!! And, what on earth was his reasoning? He was provoked? Austin shot it to him first? Well, why don't we all just stick out our tongues and say—NaNa-NaNa-Na!!! Can you imagine if all the referees in all of professional sports started FLOATIN' THE BOAT to all the players? "Yo, Michael, No. 23... CHEW ON THIS!!" Or, how about, "Hey, Junior... TAKE A BITE OUT OF THIS BIG MAC!!!"

I'm tellin' you this—THIS IS THE LAST TIME I WASTE MY INK ON EARL HEBNER! It's time to lower the boom on him, and lower it NOW!!! His conduct is inexcusable!!!

If Gorilla Monsoon doesn't have the SPALDINGS to tell this lunatic to take a walk, then maybe the World Wrestling Federation should find another president who does!!!



V.V.





ROOKIES TO LEGENDS

In 1985, Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart and his brother-in-law, Bret "Hit Man" Hart, joined forces in what would become one of the greatest tag team combinations in World Wrestling Federation history. Along with crafty manager Jimmy Hart, the Hart Foundation established a stunning mix of power and speed, which catapulted them to the Federation Title when they defeated the British Bulldogs in January of 1987. They held the gold for nine months, using their patented finishing move—the Hart Attack—to flatten the opposition. Unfortunately, in October of that same year, Bret and "the Anvil" lost the gold to the Strike Force (Tito Santana and Rick Martel) in Syracuse, New York.

Bent on proving their title reign was anything but a fluke, the Hart Foundation persevered and climbed back up the tag team ranks. As part of the effort to regain their glory, the duo fired the

"Mouth of the South" during a match in 1989. That controversial decision seemed to have rejuvenated the team, as they defeated Demolition for their second title reign at *SummerSlam '90*.

However, at *WrestleMania VII* in March of 1991, the Foundation lost their titles to the Nasty Boys. The defeat not only cost them the belts, but their solidarity as a unit. Bret and the Anvil quietly walked away from the tag team scene, opting to tackle singles competition instead. The "Excellence of Execution" went on to win the Intercontinental and Federation Title within two years, while Neidhart soon left the spotlight of the Federation.

From 1992 to 1994, the Anvil

toured various regional promotions across the United States, sharpening his trade until he was ready to return to the "big time". In 1994, he re-emerged during the bitter feud between Bret and brother Owen. This time, Neidhart joined the "King of Harts" in an attack on his former Hart Foundation partner at *SummerSlam '94*. Following a series of tag team matches that pitted Owen against Bret and the British Bulldog, the Anvil once again disappeared from the squared circle.

It would be three years before Neidhart would resurface in the Federation. In that span, an amazing turn of events took place where Bret, Davey Boy and Owen reunited as a family to form the new Hart Foundation. After Stone Cold Steve Austin sent the Hit Man to the hospital with an injured knee in April, the Foundation called in the reinforcements. One week later on *RAW IS WAR*, Neidhart shocked the world when he appeared from the locker room and blind-sided Austin, this time saving the Excellence of Execution from harm's way. With that move, the Anvil solidified his standing as the fourth member of the Foundation!

Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart



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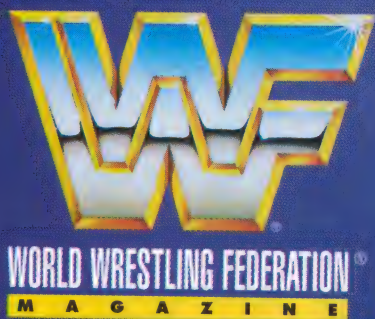
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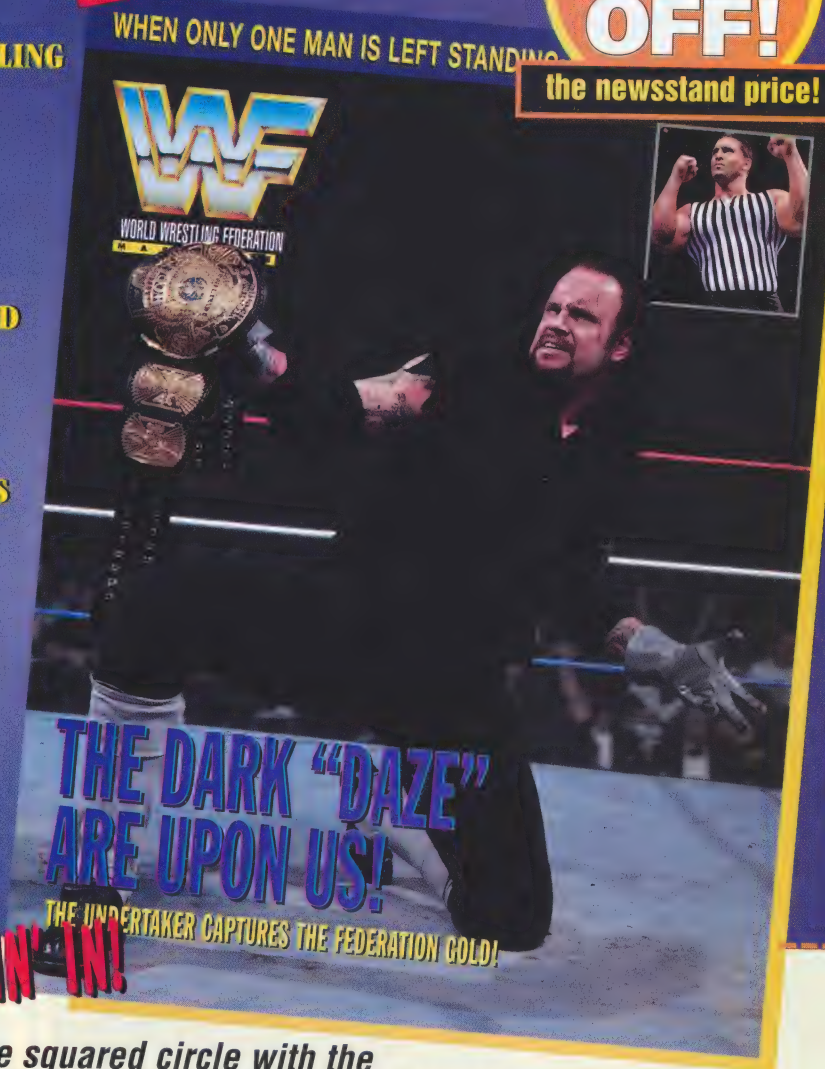
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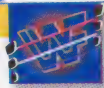
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TALES FROM THE TURNBUCKLE

During the World Wrestling Federation's "Cold Day In Hell" this past May, Spanish fans tuned into the Pay-Per-View broadcast to hear the familiar voice of former World Wrestling Federation superstar Tito Santana! However, this time, the Mexican legend wasn't inside the ring; rather, he opted to join the Spanish broadcast team full-time as part of his new duties!

ARRIBA SANTANA!

Santana is a former two-time Intercontinental Champion, a title he won from Don Muraco, and later Greg Valentine in 1984. He is also a two-time Federation Tag Team Champion, a title he held with Ivan Putski in 1979 and in 1987 with partner Rick Martel—then known as Strike Force. At *WrestleMania VIII* in 1992, Santana narrowly lost to an up-and-coming Shawn Michaels, a bout that proved the Mexican fighter still had what it takes to mix it up with the best the Federation had to offer. Then in late 1993,

the fan favorite quietly walked away from the "big time", realizing his legendary career would one day land him in the Hall of Fame.

With the return of Santana, Spanish fans will now be able to tune in to the Pay-Per-View events and hear the former champion do color commentary along with commentator Carlos Cabrera. However, an occasional return to the ring for Santana might not be out of the question, as he still claims to possess the same "fiery temper" that made him a success in his heyday!



GOLDUST:

On back-to-back *RAW IS WAR* episodes this past May, former World Wrestling Federation Intercontinental Champion Goldust came out of the closet... but not the type of "coming out" you might think. Opting to take off the make-up for an up-close interview, Dustin Runnels—along with his wife Terri (Marlena)—answered the questions that have surrounded his career since first stepping boot in the Federation.

As many long-time fans know, Dustin is the son of legendary grappler "American Dream" Dusty Rhodes. For years, Dustin walked in the footsteps of his father, attempting to gain the former National Wrestling Alliance (NWA) Champion's respect at any cost. It was Runnels'

goal to prove to his father that he could make it out on his own, and thus Goldust was born from his very own imagination.

In the touching interview broadcast on *RAW IS WAR*, Dustin revealed to the world that he and his father had not spoken in years. During that time, the former Intercontinental Champion—along with Terri and two-year-old daughter Dakota—have grown into a happy and loving family. Visibly upset, Dustin also told those same viewers that his daughter has never been a part of her legendary grandfather's life. The interview showed a rare side to a superstar that the fans don't always get to see! Indeed, the entertainer known as Goldust is a human being after all.

OUT OF THE SHADOWS!

You Don't Say

The Hart Foundation isn't the only "game" Stone Cold Steve Austin has in his sights! In fact, the book of Austin 3:16 has an entire chapter devoted to hunting and gaming when he's back home resting in Texas!

WF TOUR GUIDE

JULY

- 18 Worcester, MA
- 19 St. John's, NF, CAN
- 20 Sydney, NS, CAN
- 21 Halifax, NS, CAN (*RAW IS WAR*)
- 25 Indianapolis, IN
- 26 Cleveland, OH
- 27 Erie, PA
- 28 Pittsburgh, PA (*RAW IS WAR*)

AUGUST

- 1 White Plains, NY
- 2 Poughkeepsie, NY
- 3 East Rutherford, NJ (*SummerSlam*)
- 4 Bethlehem, NY (*RAW IS WAR*)
- 8 Miami, FL
- 9 West Palm Beach, FL
- 10 Orlando, FL
- 11 Biloxi, MS (*RAW IS WAR*)

MR. MONDAY NIGHT?!

This past May during a *RAW IS WAR* episode, Jerry "the King" Lawler kicked off the night by revealing he had a "surprise" for the World Wrestling Federation. Not one to be trusted, the fans brushed his comments aside, only to be shocked later on by the actions of his "Highness". Since last February, the King has verbally ripped Philadelphia-based promotion Extreme Championship Wrestling (ECW). But now he was about to praise one of their own for "getting smart" and coming to the "big time". Rob Van Dam, a former star of the "extreme" promotion, made it official that he was leaving ECW and heading to the Federation when he made his first appearance on *RAW IS WAR*!

Dubbed "Mr. Monday Night", Rob joined Lawler in bad-mouthing his former employers in Philadelphia by announcing that they were the same "wanna-bes" that the King was declaring all along. Then, Rob apparently didn't give a "Damn" about his own well-being as he narrowly escaped hospitalization in his first Federation victory. At one point,

the high-flyer flipped over the top rope onto the floor, not only taking out his opponent, but also bouncing his own skull off the concrete!

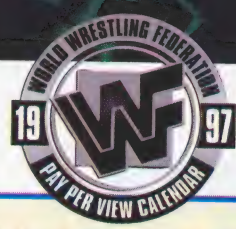
Since that *RAW IS WAR* episode, "Mr. Monday Night" has

made it clear that the "extreme" glory he attained in Philadelphia will be child's play compared to what he plans on doing in the Federation! The only question is: will he cripple himself or an opponent while trying to do it?

TOP FIVE REASONS WHY JERRY LAWLER HATES EXTREME CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING (ECW)

1. He'll never forgive them for piledriving his grandmother through four wooden tables when all she wanted to do was play a nice game of Bingo!
2. The *Baywatch* babes always call that big fat blue slob and his skinny little friend... and NEVER him!
3. He could never respect any kind of promotion that pays one of its top stars with a six-pack of beer and subway fare home.
4. Two Hansen Brother wanna-bes compete in a wrestling ring rather than trying to figure out how they came from the same mother.
5. The only promotion on earth where you can first cook your dinner on a frying pan in the locker room and then use it to knock out your opponent!

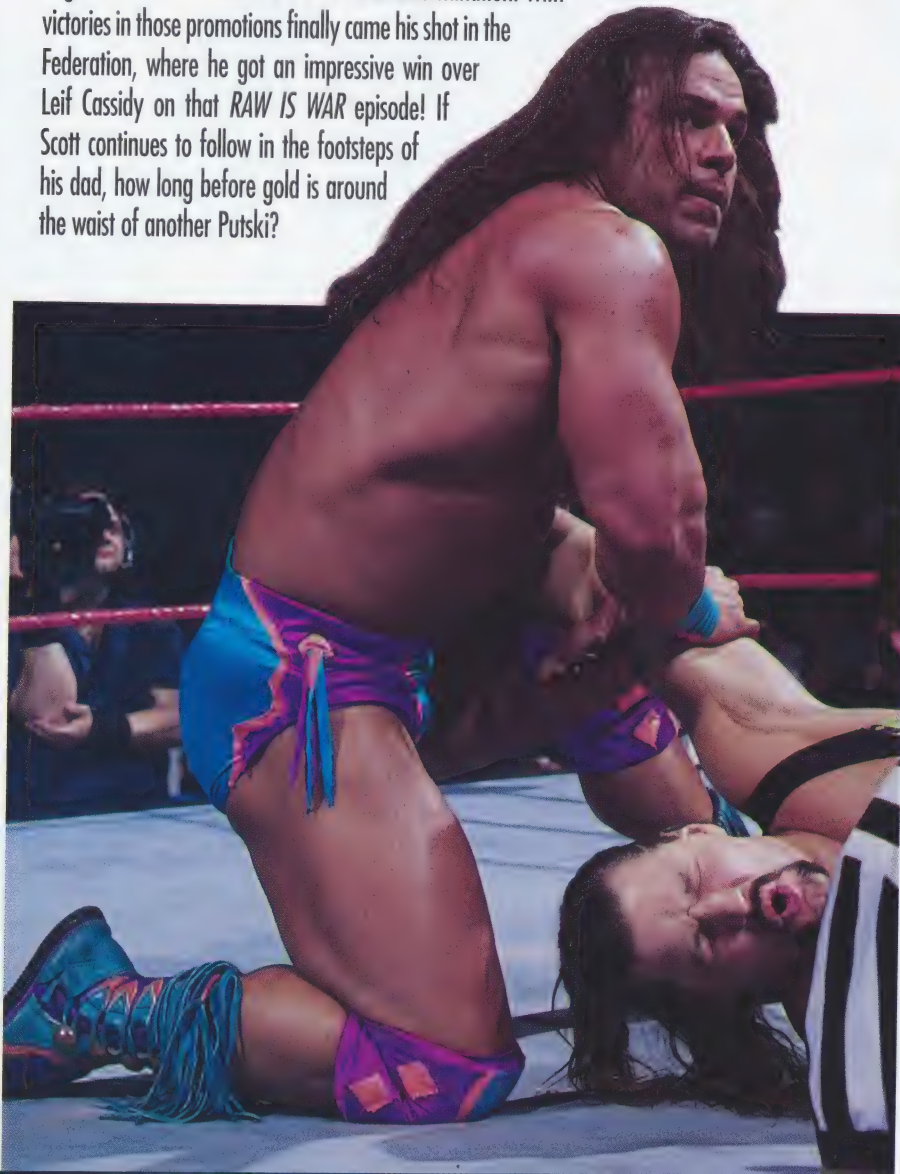




POLISH POWER PART II !!!

In the mid-70s through the early 80s, legendary superstar Ivan Putski was one of the most popular superstars to compete in the squared circle of the World Wrestling Federation. In 1979, shortly after the Polish immigrant realized his dream of becoming an American citizen, he captured the Federation Tag Team Title with Tito Santana when the duo defeated Hall of Fame tag team the Valiant Brothers. After a stellar career in the Federation, "Polish Power" walked away from the ring in the mid-80s and became one of the first entrants into the Federation Hall of Fame. Today, Putski is still held in the highest regard as he enjoys retired life away from the ring.

However, this past May during an episode of *RAW IS WAR*, the Putski family name was reborn when his own son Scott made his debut in the "big time"! Since the early 90s, the chiseled youngster has competed in several independent promotions, opting to start off the same way his father began his career—with hard work and determination. With victories in those promotions finally came his shot in the Federation, where he got an impressive win over Leif Cassidy on that *RAW IS WAR* episode! If Scott continues to follow in the footsteps of his dad, how long before gold is around the waist of another Putski?



July 6—*In Your House* (Calgary, Alberta, CAN)

August 3—*SummerSlam* (East Rutherford, NJ)

September 7—*In Your House* (Louisville, KY)

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Quote of the month

"UNDERTAKER... I can make you sorry you ever did this to me, but I'll give you one more chance! Don't make me unleash that dark secret that can destroy you, because I promised myself I would never come to that! YOU KNOW I could destroy you if I wanted to!"

**Paul Bearer,
appearing on *RAW IS WAR* for the first
time since being burned by the
Undertaker**



IN THE LINE

TARGET: BRET



OF FIRE

"HIT MAN" HART



IN THE LINE

EDITOR: Bret, as you requested this interview, I guess the first question is: Why did you want to be interviewed?

BRET: That's simple. Ever since the first day that I returned to the World Wrestling Federation, I haven't felt like I've been given a fair opportunity to speak my piece... whether it's on television, in the magazine or anywhere! It seems that I'm always ushered into a corner and given a very small platform to express myself on.

EDITOR: With all due respect, Bret, how can you say that when the ENTIRE Hart Foundation has been stealing the show on RAW IS WAR week after week?!

BRET: EXACTLY! I had to "steal" it to be heard! Nobody would listen to Bret Hart, so I had to do things my way—the HARD WAY!!! So, who's sorry now?!

EDITOR: You know, Bret, I'd be lying if I told you that I haven't been taken aback by some of your actions over the past three months. I mean, you were once an individual who always took great pleasure and pride in performing for the fans. In retrospect, I guess you did what you had to do, but the way you turned your back on them... I just don't know.

BRET: Turned my back on them? Vince, what show have you been watching lately? First of all, I haven't turned my back on the fans, because I have some great fans. You were there when I recently walked out to a thunderous ovation when I wrestled

Hunter Hearst-Helmsley in Berlin. Those people respect the "Hit Man" and remember everything that I ever stood for. Now, if you're talking about the American fans... that's a

"EXACTLY! I had to 'steal' it to be heard! Nobody would listen to Bret Hart, so I had to do things my way—the HARD WAY!!! So, who's sorry now?!"

completely different story! It's not "what have I done for them, it's what have THEY DONE TO ME?!" They've trampled a guy who set such a high standard and always kept his head up! They stepped on a guy who carried dignity and respect as high as any one man could ever carry it! No one EVER tried harder than me—INCLUDING Shawn Michaels! No one ever carried the World Wrestling Federation banner with more class than I did! I had to ask myself, what did I ever do to deserve this lack of respect? I did my best to be that "hero" that people could look up to.

EDITOR: In reality, Bret, maybe in 1997, the American fans just don't want "heroes" anymore.

BRET: That's bull!@#\$. They want heroes, they just want low-lives like the Undertaker or Shawn Michaels or Stone Cold Steve Austin. Guys who have tattoos or earrings in their belly buttons or mouths like sewers! The Charles Mansons and O.J. Simpsons of the world!

EDITOR: Are you comparing the Undertaker, Shawn Michaels and Steve Austin to Charles Manson and O.J. Simpson?

BRET: In my mind... there's no difference.

EDITOR: In my mind... it could be jealousy.

BRET: JEALOUSY?! Are you kidding me? I just want to know what kind of crap is it, when I—the hero carrying the torch, the role model of the company—and this guy (excuse me while I spit) comes in and takes my place as the hero to millions of children and teenagers all over the world—the Chippendale Dancer? Unfortunately for him, I'm still the best in the world and he and everybody



RE OF FIRE

else KNOWS THAT! Wasn't it Shawn Michaels who decided that maybe it just wasn't worth it to him anymore when things started to get a little hot around here? I mean, getting beat up by seven cheerleaders in Syracuse and forfeiting the Federation Title once wasn't enough! No, he had to forfeit it one more time because he didn't have the guts to wrestle me at *WrestleMania 13*!

EDITOR: Bret, I know you can talk

about Shawn Michaels all day, so let's move on to something else.

BRET: That's fine by me. I don't even want to waste my time talking about him!

EDITOR: In the past, you have taken great pride in being a role model to children across the world. Of late, however, you have done some very "un-role model"-like things. How does that make you feel inside?

BRET: It all depends on how you look at it. In a way it hurts, but I realize that is what it has all come down to. I have to fight fire with fire. You can't just stand there anymore. I am not just going to step back and let "them" win! Bret Hart will NEVER surrender! I thought long and hard about it and I realized that just because America has turned its back on me doesn't mean that I have to turn my back on the rest of the fans around the world! It doesn't mean that I have to turn my back on what I stand for, and what I stand for is righting the wrongs! And right now, there are some very serious wrongs around here, and the Hart Foundation will do whatever it takes to justify the means!

EDITOR: Are you sorry that you came back to the World Wrestling Federation?

BRET: At one point I was sorry. As a matter of fact, I was REALLY sorry! But, since the reunion... I'm not sorry anymore!

EDITOR: Speaking of the "reunion", did you ever think that the Hart family would be able to resolve all their differences the way they have?

BRET: You know... it's been a very tough situation. I was involved in an emotional tug of war for a very long time. I realize that a lot of people feel bad about the steps that I've taken, but you have to fight drastic measures with drastic measures! In all fairness, Owen and I had been pushed by the Federation... and aimed at each other. It was an ugly and traumatic experience for both of us. We were two people who loved each other. I said for many years that I NEVER hated Owen. I just always felt sorry for him. And you know what? That all came out in the ring that night on *RAW IS WAR!* So, the answer



IN THE LINE OF FIRE

to your question is—yes. Blood is thicker than water, especially when that blood is being pumped by a Hart.

EDITOR: Do you have any reservations whatsoever—any doubts in your mind—that you may be making the biggest mistake of your career and it may be too late to go back?

BRET: I don't think it's a big mistake, and I wouldn't even think about going back. Aside from the immoral Americans, the rest of the world is not going to turn their backs on Bret Hart and the Hart Foundation. You know, it's ironic, people around the world look for America to lead them, and to set a responsible example on this planet. And, you know what kind of example they set? They set an example of violence at any means! America is the most violent country in the world! It's acceptable to just shoot people on street corners! America is becoming the cesspool of the world! A cesspool of violence and wrong, and it's one wrong after another! Americans just don't seem to respect anyone else in the world. It's a toilet that just keeps getting flushed! Maybe because I'm Canadian I can see this more clearly than other people can. Not that the Hart Foundation is going to make that much of a difference, but we are going to bring to the forefront that America needs to clean up its act!

EDITOR: Violence? If you're so concerned about violence, then how can you explain the actions of the Hart Foundation of late?

BRET: We are simply re-acting... acting.

EDITOR: Bret, I have to ask you this: How do your two young sons, Dallas and Blade, feel about the actions of their father and uncles of late? What kind of an example is the Hart Foundation setting for them?

BRET: Unfortunately, we are doing the right thing and Dallas and Blade, along with my two daughters, fully understand that. It's a tough message, but the message has always been: you have to fight fire with fire. If some kid at school keeps beating you up every day with a bat, then you have no choice but to go out and get a bigger bat. That's what some people don't understand. I tried to do it by "their" rules, and I tried to play by "their" book. But I got shot down. Clipped from behind by everybody!

EDITOR: Will the Hart Foundation continue to grow?

BRET: Right now, the best wrestlers in the world are watching my back, and with that type of protection I finally have the chance to prove—without a shadow of a doubt—that Bret Hart is still the best there was, the best there is and the best there ever will be! I want to ensure that the Hart name lives forever, and if that means getting more Harts, or digging up more wrestlers from my past who I can trust and who will defend me, then again—I will do anything it takes to justify the means!

EDITOR: Do you have any comments to the American fans who might be reading this interview right now?

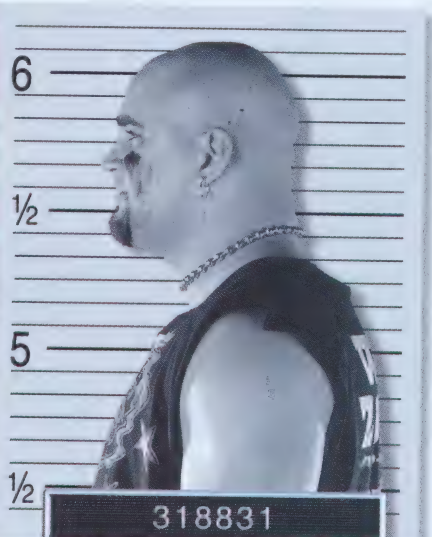
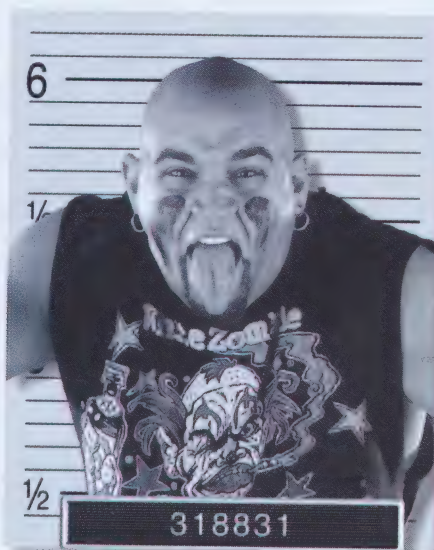
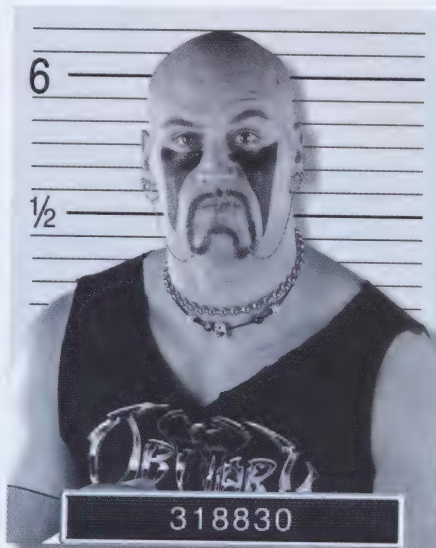
BRET: Yeah... stick it! **WF**






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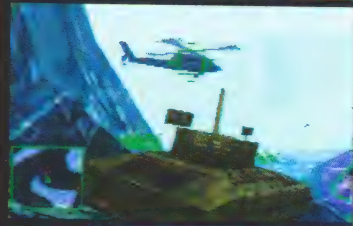
A tank is shown driving across a vast, undulating desert landscape under a clear blue sky. The sand dunes are a warm orange-brown color, and the tank's tracks leave a path behind it. A line of text is positioned above the tank, with a thin line pointing from the text to the tank's turret.

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take one down, pass it around,
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98 bullet-riddled bodies...

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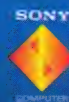
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Is Austin's Logical Choice Sid?

WILD CRAZY

BY VINCE RUSSO



Look, even Billy Jack couldn't survive on his own.

No, I'm not talking about the wrestler, I'm talking about the lead character of the 1971 cult film of the same name! For those of you who need to get out more, Billy Jack was a half-breed karate expert who used his lethal hands and feet to protect an experimental "freedom school" of racially

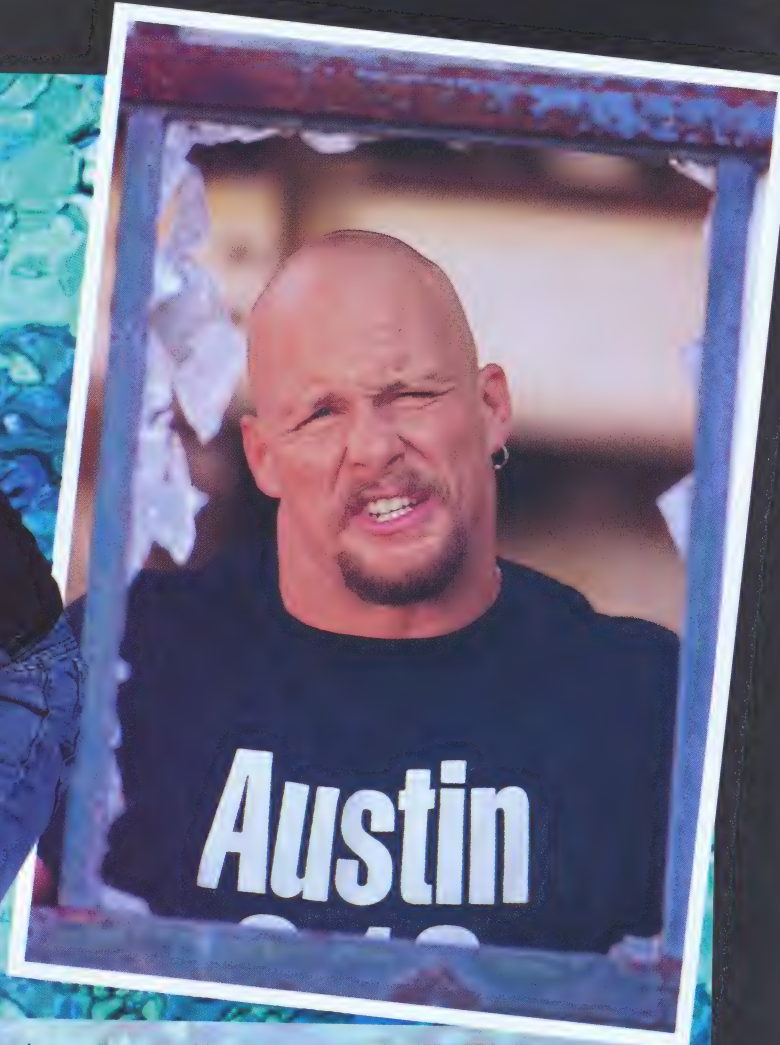
mixed students from the vicious bigots of the neighboring town. The guy was a celluloid legend. As one of his fictional friends once said, "When we need him... he is there." Whether he showed up on horseback or astride his motorcycle from out of the woods, Billy Jack always showed up just in the nick of time to save the day!!!



But, guess what?!!! Billy Jack got his in the end!!! He was always run off into the next sequel. Oh, he picked off one or two of them, but in the end the numbers against him were always too great to overcome! No matter how tough he was, Billy Jack couldn't take on the world single-handedly! Sound familiar? Could this story be similar to that of one head-wigglin' bad-!@# that we have all grown to know and love? What I'm trying to say is, and as he would so fittingly put it... Stone Cold Steve Austin needs an ally and that's the **BOTTOM LINE, SON!!!**

Let's flash back to reality for a second, shall we? No one man can overcome an army. Billy Jack couldn't do it, Ahmed Johnson couldn't do it and Stone Cold Steve Austin **CAN'T** do it. That's why people form gangs—**TO INSURE VICTORY**. The Harts' goal is **TO WIN**. Whether it takes all the brothers, father Stu and sister Diana... they are out to **INSURE** victory. Steve Austin **CAN'T** win. Tough S.O.B.? Yes. Intelligent S.O.B.? No. I know what he's thinking, and let's just say it resembles a Dr. Seuss mentality. He's living in a world of Green Eggs and Ham if he thinks for one minute that he can "sack the pack!" I don't care how tough he is, it just ain't gonna happen!!!

So, Austin needs to find a friend, and of course everybody points immediately to Shawn Michaels. Are they on the same mission? Yes. Do they share the same purpose in life? Yes. Rid the world of the Hart Foundation is what it's all about for these two—**EXTREMELY DIFFERENT**—superstars! Kids, **YOU CAN'T MIX OIL AND WATER!** Oh, you can try, but it will never come together as one. Whereas Shawn and Steve may look great on paper, here in the real world... it has



about as much of a chance of working as Vic Venom and Todd Pettengill have of becoming tag team partners (read the current *RAW Magazine*, now available at newsstands everywhere)!!!

So then, with all that being said, who's the lucky contestant? Which World Wrestling Federation superstar best fits the category to "bail Stone Cold out" in this dangerous game of "Jeopardy"? Children... there's only one!!! Stone Cold Steve Austin... YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN THE SYCHO! It makes all the sense in the world!!! Two wolverines that you would not trust as far as you could throw them!!! Two madmen who share a common bond—all they care about is THEMSELVES!!! No hidden agenda, no ulterior motives, NO B.S.!!! If I'm Steve Austin, the idea of forming an alliance with a lunatic—SUCH AS MYSELF—who couldn't be trusted would be exhilarating and at the same time extremely titilating. AND, vice versa... of course. That thrill would be such a rush (sorry, Hawk) that the adrenaline flow alone would give me the raw aggression to overcome the entire Calgary Hitmen team, let alone a "paw-full" of Harts!!!

BUT... where would it lead, you ask? The answer to that question is simple—TOTAL ARMAGEDDON!!!! As soon as the "Diabolic Duo" accomplished the matter at hand... they would then simply proceed... to tear each other limb from limb!!!

AND THEY WOULD BOTH LOVE IT!!! **WF**



Reflections

Why Faarooq and Ahmed Johnson Can't Survive Without Each Other

By Bill Banks

ONE NATION, UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH AHMED AND FAAROOQ FOR ALL?!

Two men so far apart... yet so very much alike.

As the aggression-infested relationship shared by Faarooq and Ahmed Johnson forges on, one has to ask oneself—are both men fighting for the same beliefs? And if so, are these two superstars more alike than anyone could ever possibly understand?

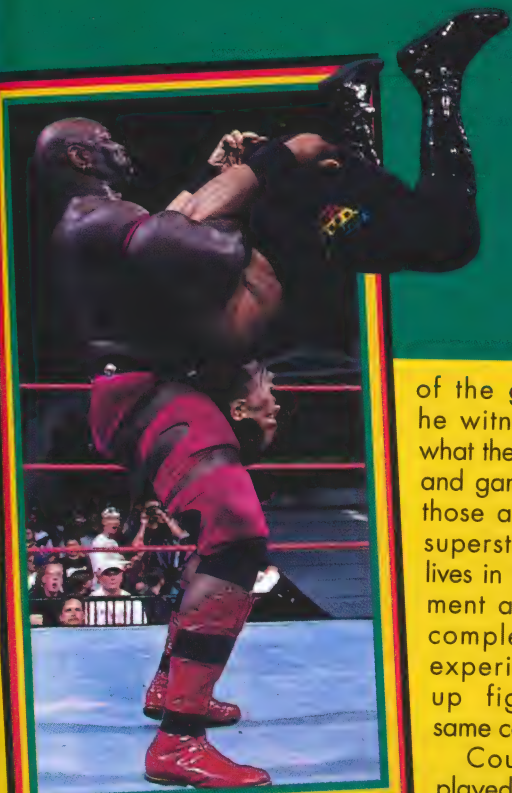
Breaking down both superstars psychologically and sociologically, it's easy to diagnose that both men share common goals in life, but each goes about accomplishing them in different ways. For example, both Faarooq and Ahmed look to unify their people, but by different means. Ahmed speaks out against blacks killing blacks and the threat of gang violence, while Faarooq enforces unity by simply burying those who oppose him. Each man is fighting to be heard, yet the more they argue the more they drown each other out.

Their personal struggles to gain respect connect them in many strange symbiotic ways and, oddly enough, the most recent war between the two proud warriors might very well have established a foundation to bring Faarooq and Ahmed together as one in the near future!

Long before Faarooq and Ahmed embarked on their respective careers in sports-entertainment, both led similar and parallel lives. Both came from the same streets, dealing with adversity in different ways. The Nation's leader—then known as Ron Simmons—used his mind to lift himself out of the Georgia slums. Through dedication and hard work, Simmons was able to graduate from high school and go on to Florida State University, where he became an All-American and one of only two players to have their jerseys retired as members of the football team (the other being Deion Sanders). While Simmons was using "proper education" as a means to be heard,

Ahmed Johnson was utilizing his "street smarts" to get his point across. The proud man from Pearl River managed to successfully "make a difference" after pulling himself out

of Pride



of the gang life when he witnessed first-hand what the scourge of drugs and gang-banging did to those around him. Both superstars began their lives in the same environment and through two completely different experiences, wound up fighting for the same cause.

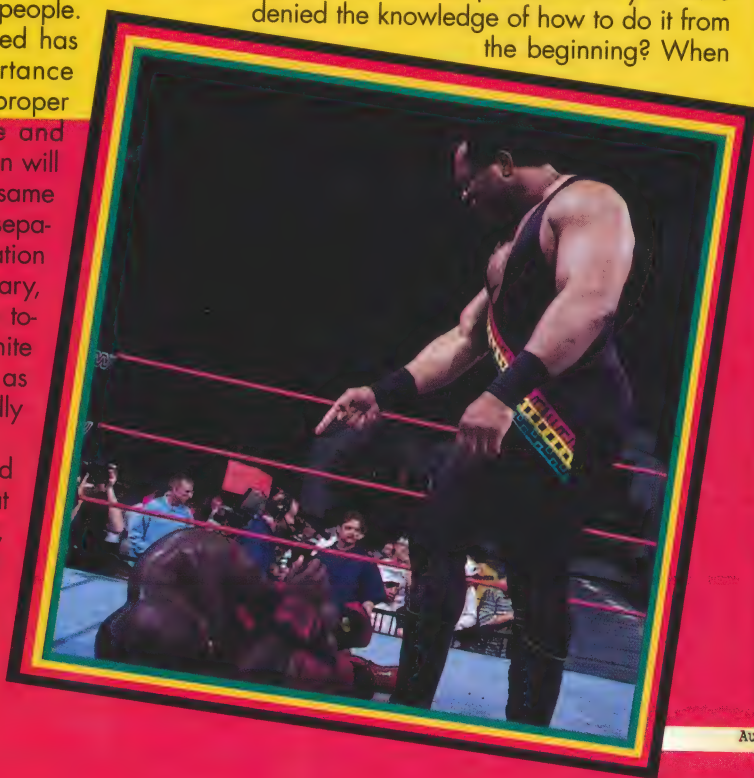
Could fate have played a part in bringing these two athletes to

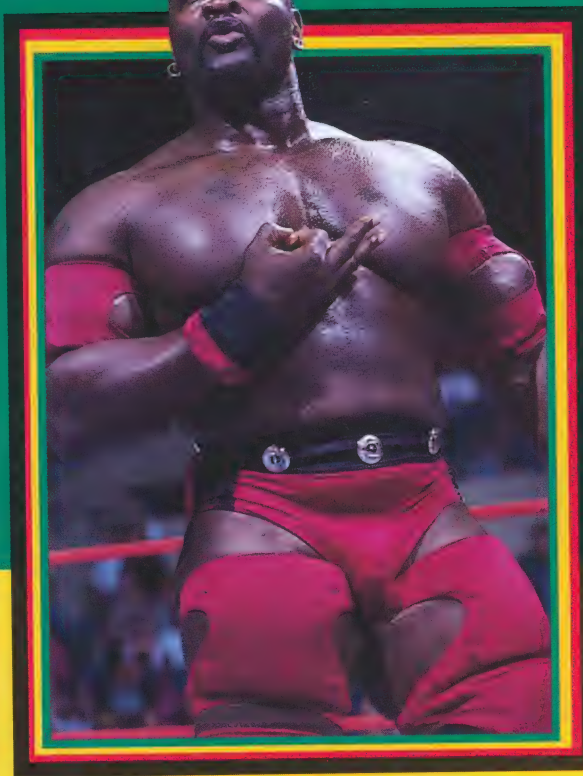
the same place, at the same time—that being the World Wrestling Federation? And if so, why? Although both men may never see eye-to-eye, their common message is one of unity to their people. Since entering the Federation in 1995, Ahmed has preached to young minds about the importance of staying away from drugs and getting a proper education. By learning about who you are and where you came from, Ahmed claims, only then will the violence stop. Faarooq also preaches that same message, but in a much different way. What separates Faarooq from his enemy is that the Nation leader delivers his point by ANY means necessary, using the force of the Nation to bring people together. In other words, Ahmed attempts to unite his people by preaching his life experiences as examples, while Faarooq chooses to physically beat people over the head to instill his beliefs.

However, while both men are determined to get their messages across, neither hears what the other is saying. In any heated argument, there comes a point when both people attempt to scream over each other to be heard.

As a result, everyone is talking, but no one is listening. In Faarooq's and Ahmed's situation, there has never been

any kind of talk between the two sides to resolve the issue. In fact, the fans of the Federation NEVER were told by either one of these individuals what the issue was to begin with! Growing up on the streets, both superstars were raised in a world where fists solved problems. There were certainly no counselors to work things out where they came from. As a result, how can you settle a fight like a civilized person when you were denied the knowledge of how to do it from the beginning? When





one man—be it Faarooq or Ahmed—stops arguing to hear the other, then maybe they will begin to realize they are screaming about the same things!

Actions do indeed speak louder than words, and after what took place at May's *In Your House*, something may finally connect these two enemies in a way that doesn't involve fists. That common thread is respect, and Ahmed earned Faarooq's when he attempted to run the gauntlet, and failed, at "A Cold Day In Hell". You see, since the birth of the Nation of Domination last November, Faarooq was sure he had constructed the perfect fighting unit. Amid the core of his security force, the leader felt as though no one could stop him from doing what he wanted, when he wanted—least of all Ahmed Johnson.

Before they even stepped into the squared circle that night, Faarooq was confident that Ahmed might only get past one Nation member... IF he was lucky. But much to his dismay, as the night progressed, Faarooq saw the former Intercontinental Champion overpower his wall of human shields en route to getting to the third and deciding soldier—himself. Instead of losing his cool, the leader began looking for a crack in Ahmed's armor, and he saw plenty after already being bruised and battered by his Nation. In fact, our sources tell us that the leader hinted to his followers that he didn't even expect Johnson to make it into the ring for the final showdown. However, when the Master of the Pearl River Plunge overcame the pain determined to put

up the fight of his life against his nemesis, something may have changed in Faarooq's mind. Perhaps as he saw the look of determination in the eyes of his enemy, it occurred to him for the first time... that he may have been fighting the exact likeness of himself. How could Ahmed, a man with so much drive and hate in him, overcome the pain inflicted by his Nation and STILL have enough left to fight? Our sources tell us that later on that night, Faarooq blasted his Nation members by informing them he might have acquired the services of the wrong people! If such was the case, then who in Faarooq's mind were the right people... or should I say... who was the right PERSON?

As their war rages on, no one is sure if some kind of truce will ever come between these two sides. Many critics feel that it may never end until both men are forced to live out the rest of their lives in wheelchairs. Hopefully, maybe the analysts are dead wrong. In this writer's opinion, the "connection" that was initiated by Faarooq at "A Cold Day In Hell" will only lead to something much more shocking in the upcoming months. You see, when these two superstars finally realize that they are fighting for the same common goals, perhaps they will sit down behind closed doors and resolve their differences, this time without fists. That may be a far cry from where they are now, but remember one thing... no war lasts forever. **WF**



PERSONALITY PROFILE

FAVORITE BAND:

My high school band

BIGGEST THRILL IN LIFE:

It's still to come, and it's getting rid of Ahmed Johnson!

PERSON YOU WOULD MOST LIKE TO MEET:

If I could step outside of my body and meet myself, it would be ME!

FAVORITE SPORT (BESIDES WRESTLING):

Football

FAVORITE ATHLETE:

Myself

FAVORITE TELEVISION SHOW:

RAW IS WAR, because I'm on it!

HOBBIES:

I'm not a man of leisure activities, but I do enjoy beating people up!

FAVORITE FOOD:

I'm a soul-food man—collard greens are my favorite!

FAVORITE FAST FOOD:

I don't eat any fast food!

BEST ADVICE EVER RECEIVED:

If the words don't make an impact, your foot will!

FAVORITE ACTOR:

Clint Eastwood

FAVORITE ACTRESS:

Marilyn Chambers

FAVORITE MOVIE:

Ben Hur

FAVORITE VIDEO GAME:

The one that is yet to come...

IF I COULD HAVE DONE IT DIFFERENTLY, I WOULD HAVE...

Not done it at all!

SECRET TALENT:

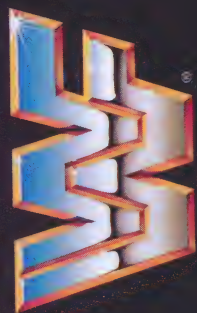
My secret talents are done behind closed doors!

FAVORITE CARTOON CHARACTER:

Wile E. Coyote, because I always wanted him to get his hands around the neck of the Road Runner!



Farooq



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JULY

1997

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		1	2 Bret "Hit Man" Hart	3	4 Blackjack Windham	5 Hillbilly Jim
6  (Calgary, Alberta, CAN)	7	8	9 Salvatore Sincere	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Wildman Marc Mero
20	21	22 Shawn Michaels	23	24	25	26
27 Hunter Hearst-Helmsley	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST

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3 SummerSlam (East Rutherford, NJ)	4	5	6	7	8 Sable	9
10 Savio Vega	11	12	13	14 Bob Backlund	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

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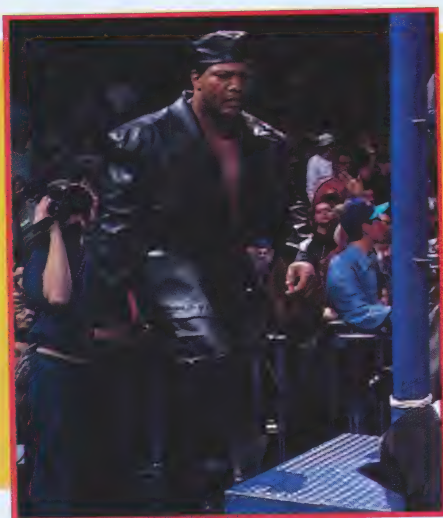
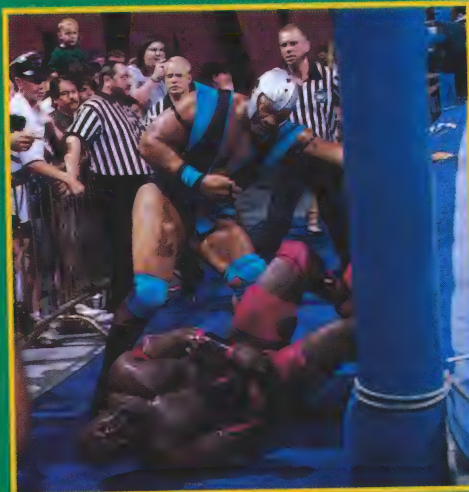
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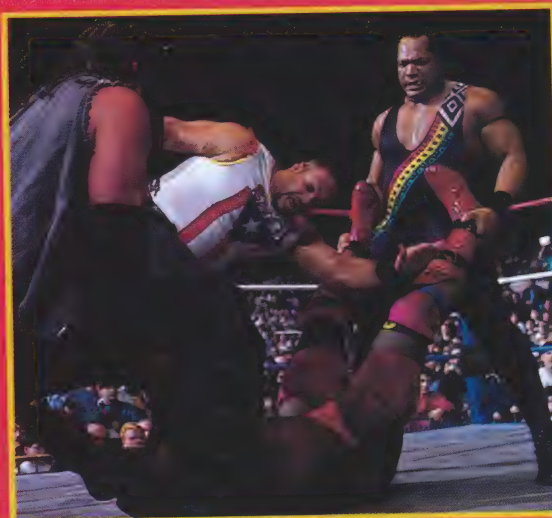
CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

In July of 1996, Sunny claimed she was bringing a new protégé into the World Wrestling Federation—a superstar who would easily clear a trail of victims to the top of the ladder. In the weeks leading up to his debut on the *Monday Night RAW* following July's "International Incident", many wondered just who this gladiator could possibly be. During that live *RAW* broadcast, Shawn Michaels and Ahmed Johnson were competing in a tag team encounter when Faarooq—the man formerly known as Ron Simmons—made his first Federation appearance! As Ahmed was lying on the arena floor, the newcomer viciously attacked his nemesis, kicking him several times in the back and ribs. The assault, Ahmed would later discover, damaged his kidney and forced the then Intercontinental Champion to undergo emergency surgery. After hearing the "good" news, Faarooq bragged about his sole responsibility for putting Ahmed on the sidelines and forcing the "People's Champion" to forfeit his title.



After the Intercontinental Belt was declared vacant, Federation officials announced a tournament featuring eight of the top superstars. Faarooq made it to the finals, but the underhanded tactics of his beautiful manager cost him the victory. After the loss, the manager and her protégé agreed to go their separate ways in the Federation. Realizing that Ahmed would be back in the ring sooner than later and with vengeance on his mind, Faarooq quickly began to assemble his Nation of Domination to watch his back. Alongside crafty manager Clarence Mason and an elite security force, Faarooq debuted the Nation at the *Survivor Series* and proved by sheer strength in numbers that they would take what they wanted when they wanted it, by ANY means necessary! Shortly thereafter, the leader enlisted the strength of another Mason protégé—Crush—into the ranks of the Nation!

Following Ahmed's subsequent return to the ring in January of 1997, Faarooq launched an all-out assault on his nemesis by attempting to end not only his career, but also possibly his life. However, the leader would soon learn that would be easier said than accomplished! First, the two met at the *Royal Rumble*, where the Nation's security force barely saved Faarooq's career from Ahmed's rage. Then, just weeks later, the Nation sent Crush after the man from Pearl River, but once again, Ahmed overcame the assault. Realizing that his enemy may have been too strong to destroy, Faarooq then wisely enlisted the help of Ahmed's closest friend—Savio Vega! During a tag team match in January at Madison Square Garden, Savio turned his back on his longtime friend and opted to join ranks with Faarooq and Crush! Not only did the Nation succeed in beating their enemy to a pulp inside the mecca of all arenas, but they acquired the services of the one man Ahmed trusted as a friend!



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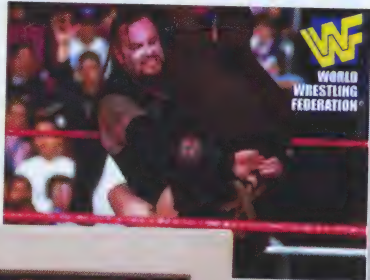


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Giving in to the Dark Side

Upon arrival in the United States last November, Doug Furnas and Philip LaFon faced a crucial decision. Now, many are wondering if the duo made the right choice.

By Bill Banks



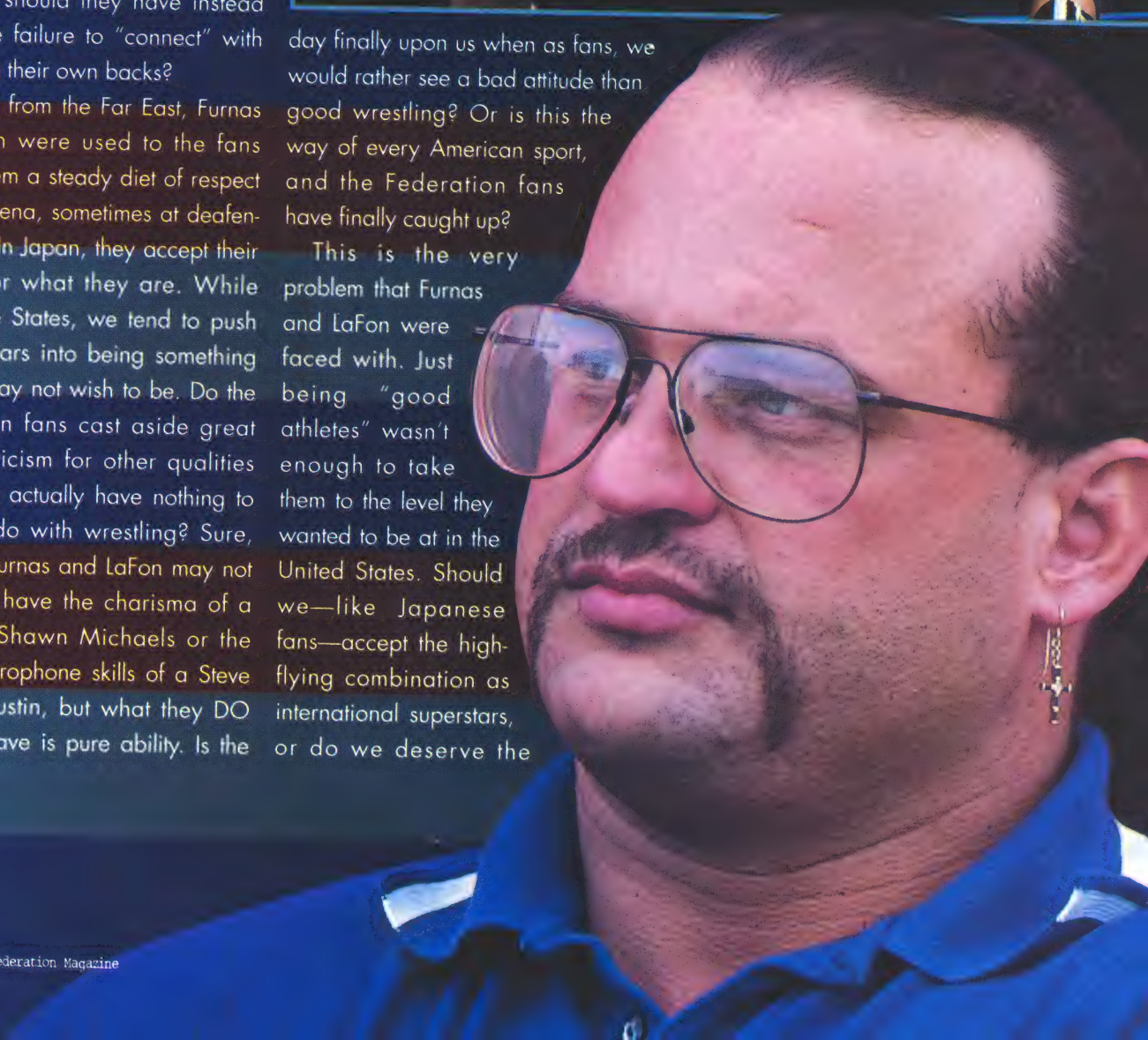
After leaving Japan eight months ago, their legacy as one of the greatest tag teams to ever compete in the Far East followed Furnas and LaFon to the "big time" of the World Wrestling Federation. Even though the label of "international superstars" earned them their initial respect from the American fans, the cheering soon died down. Being known as "legends in Japan" wasn't impressing anyone on this side of the ocean and, thus, some say the two became bitter. They started to blame their failure on the American fans not supporting them enough. Were Furnas and LaFon right to blame the people buying the tickets, or should they have instead pinned the failure to "connect" with the fans on their own backs?

Coming from the Far East, Furnas and LaFon were used to the fans feeding them a steady diet of respect in every arena, sometimes at deafening levels. In Japan, they accept their athletes for what they are. While here in the States, we tend to push our superstars into being something that they may not wish to be. Do the

American fans cast aside great athleticism for other qualities that actually have nothing to do with wrestling? Sure, Furnas and LaFon may not have the charisma of a Shawn Michaels or the microphone skills of a Steve Austin, but what they DO have is pure ability. Is the

day finally upon us when as fans, we would rather see a bad attitude than good wrestling? Or is this the way of every American sport, and the Federation fans have finally caught up?

This is the very problem that Furnas and LaFon were faced with. Just being "good athletes" wasn't enough to take them to the level they wanted to be at in the United States. Should we—like Japanese fans—accept the high-flying combination as international superstars, or do we deserve the



right to demand more from them once they enter the "big time"? Before inking athletes to a contract, should the Federation officials be obliged to make sure these newcomers don't just compete, but also "entertain" the fans? If this is indeed the case, will pure wrestling skills one day take a backseat to personality and charisma... or... has it already? Will we no longer have a Federation full of athletes, but rather a collection of entertainers. Is that what the fans really want? Or perhaps it's like Ken Shamrock said when he first entered the Federation: "It's not just wrestling, it's an entire tree of challenges that comes with it."

With that said, Shamrock summed up the differences between Furnas and LaFon's career in Japan and their venture in the United States. Faced with the dilemma of covering every branch of the tree, the hands of these two superstars may have been forced into developing an "arrogant" attitude to please the fans. If Furnas and LaFon couldn't impress the fans with their wrestling abilities, they might as well give them what they wanted—one way or another. Therefore, obviously an attitude adjustment was in order.

A perfect example of this was after their loss to the Legion of Doom on an episode of RAW IS WAR in April. Ironically, the loss to Animal and Hawk wasn't what bothered them the most, but rather the fact that the Legion of Doom had succeeded where Furnas and LaFon had failed. After all, like these "international superstars", the Road Warriors were—and still are—wrestling legends in Japan. Eastern fans treat Animal and Hawk like gods when

they step foot on their soil. Meanwhile, back in the States, the Chicago natives are regarded as the top tag team for 13 years running. This is where the problem developed with Furnas and LaFon. They could hack it with the fans in Japan, but they fell flat on their faces once they got overseas.

Since that loss, various Federation superstars claim the two opted to steal a page from Animal and Hawk's "book". In other words, WHAT made the Legion of Doom who they were? Attitude! By develop-

ing this new aggressive outlook on their career, Furnas and LaFon knew it would only be a matter of time before they would get a reaction from American wrestling fans. First, their anti-American remarks began to surface, and then an even darker side of their personas emerged.

They started wearing hooded Wind-breakers when entering the ring as intimidation. And then, cheap shots became part of their strategy. In their RAW rematch against Animal and Hawk the following week, the duo relied on underhanded tactics and outside interference by Owen Hart and the British Bulldog to win.

Just as they'd hoped, their new side got a startling reaction in the arenas. They had always heard a smattering of boos prior to their match with the Legion of Doom, but now... it rained on them like napalm. While walking down the runway under a chorus of threats, Furnas and

LaFon's "Cheshire cat" smiles told a story of two superstars who enjoyed playing "the guys you loved to hate".

Now, with their engines going full steam ahead toward the almighty lure of "success at any cost" can Furnas and LaFon keep up the "cutting edge" persona? In this cub writer's opinion—don't count on it. While the International Connection may be enjoying their reputations now, what happens when they go back to Japan and face the people who REALLY matter to them? The people who paved their way to



international stardom? Will the millions of spectators who once praised the ground these two athletes walked on forgive them for their sins in the United States? OR, will the fans who MADE them be the same ones to eventually BREAK them? If the international fans start uttering the same boos at Furnas and LaFon, will it end their careers forever?

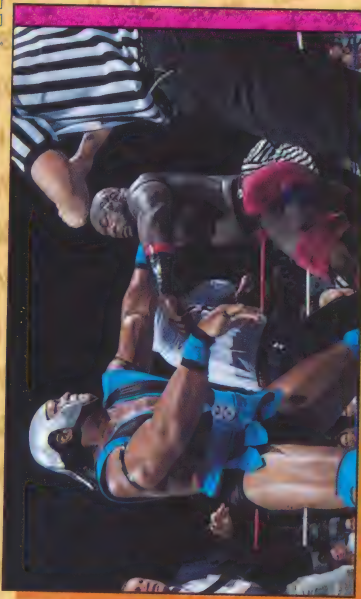
When, and if, that judgment day will ever come for the team with the new attitude is something that no one knows. Until then, all they can do is hope that giving the fans what they want won't end up destroying their careers in the end. **W**

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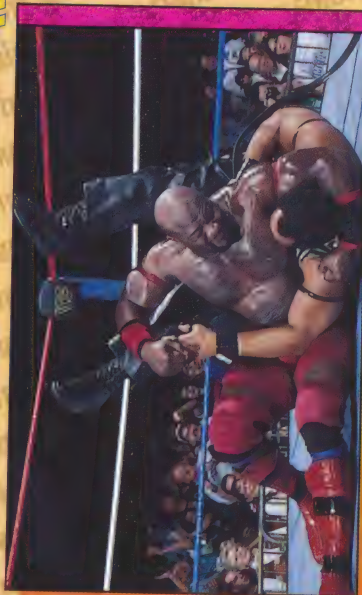
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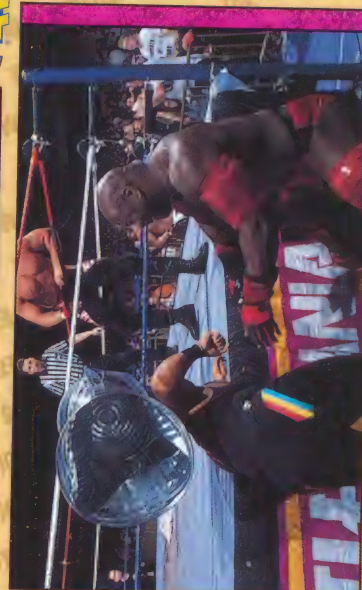
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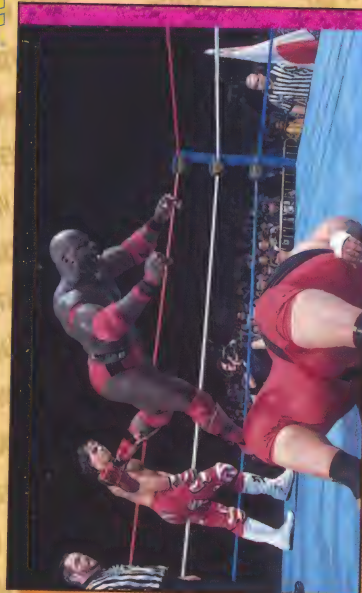
TAKING THE PLUNGE INTO WRESTLEMANIA XII!



WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION



FRIEND OR FOE?



WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

105

At the annual Federation spectacular *WrestleMania XII*, the man from Pearl River, Mississippi, teamed with Yokozuna and Jake "The Snake" Roberts to take on the trio of the man they call Vader, Owen Hart and the British Bulldog. In his first *WrestleMania* match, Ahmed rose to the occasion against "Camp Cornette" and manhandled every member of the team. The melee, critics said, established the popular powerhouse as a major force in the Federation by the mere fact that he went fist-to-fist with the 450-plus-pound Vader and stood his ground. In order to get the tainted victory, Cornette's soldiers wisely avoided the Pearl River native's warpath and opted to concentrate their efforts on Jake "The Snake" Roberts instead.

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104

After Jeff Jarrett's appalling attack on Ahmed Johnson during December 1995's *In Your House*, Federation President Gorilla Monsoon was quick to ink the two enemies to a match at the 1996 *Royal Rumble*. As anticipated, Johnson blasted his nemesis from the beginning, rocking the Tennessee native from pillar to post with thunderous kicks. At one point, Ahmed had Jarrett set up for the Pearl River Plunge, but the slick cowboy escaped and scurried to the outside of the ring. Then, out of pure frustration, Jarrett grabbed his guitar and smashed it over his opponent's head, earning him an instant disqualification. After this encounter, Jarrett refused a re-match with the Master of the Pearl River Plunge and promptly high-tailed it out of the Federation!

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103

Ahmed Johnson—the powerhouse from Pearl River, Mississippi—made his World Wrestling Federation Pay-Per-View debut at the 1995 *Survivor Series*. Prior to the event, it was announced Ahmed would join forces with Sycho Sid, Shawn Michaels and the British Bulldog in the "Wild Card" match. Seeing that both Sid and Davey Boy wanted a piece of Shawn, the Heartbreak Kid didn't know whether to make friend or foe of the newcomer if he needed someone to watch his back. During the encounter, however, Ahmed proved he was a man of his word and stood by Shawn's side. Not only were the two superstars victorious as the sole survivors of the wild melee, but the Heartbreak Kid realized he had a friend he could rely on in the powerful newcomer!

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108

Almost a month after Goldust sent Ahmed into a rage following his King of the Ring qualifying match, the two superstars met at the June Pay-Per-View for the Intercontinental Title. Throughout his Federation career, Goldust was able to play his mind games on several superstars, but on this night the man from Pearl River, Mississippi, just wasn't buying it! By using his sheer strength, Ahmed tossed his opponent around the ring like a rag doll. After hitting the Bizarre One with the Pearl River Plunge, the powerhouse realized his boyhood dream by capturing the Intercontinental gold. After the match, the newly crowned champion was given a champagne shower by Shawn Michaels, Wildman Marc Mero and several other World Wrestling Federation superstars!

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107

In a 1996 King of the Ring qualifying match, Ahmed Johnson faced the man they call Vader. Once again, Camp Cornette would rely on underhanded tactics to defeat the man from Pearl River when Owen Hart smashed him on the cranium with his cast. After being knocked cold, medical personnel stretchered Ahmed to the locker room, where Goldust was waiting to "revive" the sleeping giant. After receiving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation from Hollywood, Ahmed came to and went into a violent rage over the incident. First, he attacked Bob "Spark Plugg" Holly and then a member of the locker room security while in search of the Golden One. However, Johnson would have to wait until the King of the Ring Pay-Per-View for his revenge.

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106

Just weeks after *WrestleMania XII*, Ahmed Johnson pitted strength against strength when he took on the British Bulldog in an arm-wrestling match on *Monday Night RAW*. After overpowering Davey Boy at *WrestleMania XII*, Ahmed was sure he would be able to overcome this latest challenge from Camp Cornette. After locking arms, both superstars were at a stalemate until Ahmed turned up the pressure on his opponent. The Bulldog, clearly frustrated and unable to overcome his opponent's strength, overturned the table on Ahmed. With Johnson pinned under the hardwood, the Bulldog violently attacked his nemesis until Federation officials broke up the melee. The cowardly attack resulted in a broken thumb for the Pearl River native, forcing Ahmed out of action until it was fully healed.

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111

In February, Faarooq and the rest of the Nation of Domination challenged Ahmed Johnson to a Chicago Street Fight at *WrestleMania 13*. However, the Pearl River native was short two partners for the brawl, and there would be no way he could possibly survive the match alone. So, Ahmed enlisted the help of two individuals who were masters of such a brawl—the Legion of Doom! At the annual spectacular, both sides brought every weapon they could find in the locker room to the ring, including a kitchen sink! After the dust cleared, Ahmed and the Legion were left standing, victorious over Faarooq and his thugs. Afterward the Nation's leader was diagnosed with a punctured lung and a separated shoulder, meaning that his war with Ahmed was far from over!

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110

After sidelining Ahmed with a kidney injury that forced his nemesis to forfeit his Intercontinental Title, Faarooq began his climb to the top of the Federation. His first step was to form his Nation of Domination, an elite unit of thugs he debuted at the 1996 *Survivor Series*. However, while Faarooq was bullying his opponents, Ahmed was preparing for his Pay-Per-View return at the 1997 *Royal Rumble* against the Nation leader. During that brawl in the Alamodome, the Pearl River native went "medieval" on his enemy by doing everything in his power to end Faarooq's career. However, Ahmed's revenge was cut short when the entire Nation saved their leader from the brutal beating. In return for the interference, the former Intercontinental Champion Pearl River Plunged a Nation official through the timekeeper's table!

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109

After rising to the top of the Federation with his Intercontinental Title win, Ahmed learned that Sunny was bringing in a new singles competitor to unseat the Mississippi native. The blonde vixen not only promised that her new protégé would make his first appearance on the *Monday Night RAW* following July's "International Incident", but that Ahmed had better watch his back during his tag team match with Shawn Michaels against the Smoking Gunns. During that live broadcast, Faarooq burst from the locker room and attacked Ahmed, violently kicking the champion in the ribs. Later that night, the Intercontinental Champion was rushed to the hospital, where it was learned he had a badly damaged kidney. After undergoing emergency surgery, Ahmed's career was in serious doubt!

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A CHANGE OF HART

What is Brian Pillman's Hidden Agenda?

By Lou Gianfriddo



The last anyone saw or heard of Brian Pillman was on an episode of Monday Night RAW many months ago, wherein Stone Cold Steve Austin stalked and eventually muscled his way into Pillman's abode near Cincinnati, Ohio. The melee that ensued was one of the most explosive and controversial in the history of the World Wrestling Federation!

Trouble, however, seems to have been Brian Pillman's middle name. To back-up that statement, simply look to his adolescence. When the "Loose Cannon" was born, doctors discovered cancer in his throat that resulted in an emergency tracheotomy. The newborn needed 36 subsequent surgical procedures, which left him with a permanent scar on his neck and a raspy voice for the rest of his life.

That was only the beginning of the struggle for Brian, as a lifetime of hardship apparently lit a fire of contempt in his soul. In order to channel his frustrations, he sought out the pure aggression of the football field during his high school days. However, coaches told him that he was too small to be successful... not big enough to amount to "jack". That only made Pillman more bound and determined to prevail, and he proved his coach to

be a "jack-@#\$!" by his senior year.

After graduation from high school, the "Loose Cannon" attended Miami of Ohio University, once again setting his sights on the gridiron. The label of "too small" followed him there, and he was forced to fight to keep his athletic scholarship so he could remain in school. It was only a matter of time before Brian's talent earned him two-time All-American status and the "big time" of the National Football League was his for the taking... or so he thought.

In 1984—despite high hopes—Pillman was the ONLY college All-American not to be selected in the draft. Instead of getting depressed, the move only enraged the "Loose Cannon", who promptly walked on with the Cincinnati Bengals despite the scouting reports doubting his size and strength. He proved his worth to

the team and received the Ed Block Courage Award for his efforts. After leaving Cincinnati, Pillman played one year in Buffalo, and then he journeyed to the Canadian Football League (CFL) where he competed on the Calgary Stampeders. However, his dream of becoming a football great was destroyed when he suffered an ankle injury—much like the one he would later receive in a freak auto accident—which forced him to retire from the sport.

Extremely frustrated, Pillman walked away from the gridiron and into the Hart family "dungeon". During his days in the CFL, Brian became acquainted with Stu Hart and his sons and opted to accept an offer to train as a professional wrestler with the Canadian legend.

Stu, whose reputation for physical toughness—especially on young recruits like Pillman—took a liking to the Buckeye State's bad boy. Wanting the youngster to make a name for himself, Stu put Pillman under his son and former four-time Federation

Hart's wings for the final phases of training.

The rest, as the saying goes, is history. Once earning pro status, Pillman quickly rose through the ranks of Stu Hart's wrestling promotion in Calgary, dominating one superstar after another. From there, he traveled to World Championship Wrestling (WCW) and with his speed, agility and all-around nasty temperament, made himself almost impossible to beat. Desperate for competition of a higher and more polished level, Pillman told WCW promoters to go !@#\$ themselves. He said he had bigger fish to fry and indicated that the biggest and most surly were waiting in the vast oceans of the World Wrestling Federation.

However, during this transition period of his career, Pillman's life was nearly snuffed out when a drunk driver slammed into his open-air Hummer, ejecting the superstar 75 feet from the mangled wreck. The accident left Brian's ankle resembling a jigsaw puzzle, while the impact broke several bones in his



face. Doctors feared he would never compete again, but in May 1996—while still suffering the after-effects of surgery—the much sought-after free agent signed with the World Wrestling Federation.

Soon thereafter, Pillman told the doctors to !@#\$ off with their gloom and doom predictions, and he appeared at several Federation events with an I.V. strapped to his arm. He was determined to get back in the ring one way or another and shortly before October's "Buried Alive", Brian discovered he was healing quicker than expected.

Ironically, it would be the wrath of a former WCW friend—Steve Austin—that brought the burden of contempt back into Pillman's heart. During





an episode of *Superstars*, Austin 3:16 attacked his former Hollywood Blonds partner and snapped Brian's ankle with a steel chair. The attack forced doctors to start from scratch again on the injury and that meant six more months on the sidelines for Pillman.

During his convalescence, Pillman became reacquainted with his feelings, specifically those of rage and hatred. After months of stewing and recovering, Pillman finally returned to the Federation this past spring and picked up where he had left off—he was once more at the focal point of controversy. During his initial appearance on *RAW IS WAR*, Pillman—who was watching the matches from ringside—burst into the ring and attempted to repay Stone Cold.

The following week, Pillman announced to the world—in overtones of religious origin—that he was reuniting with the man who

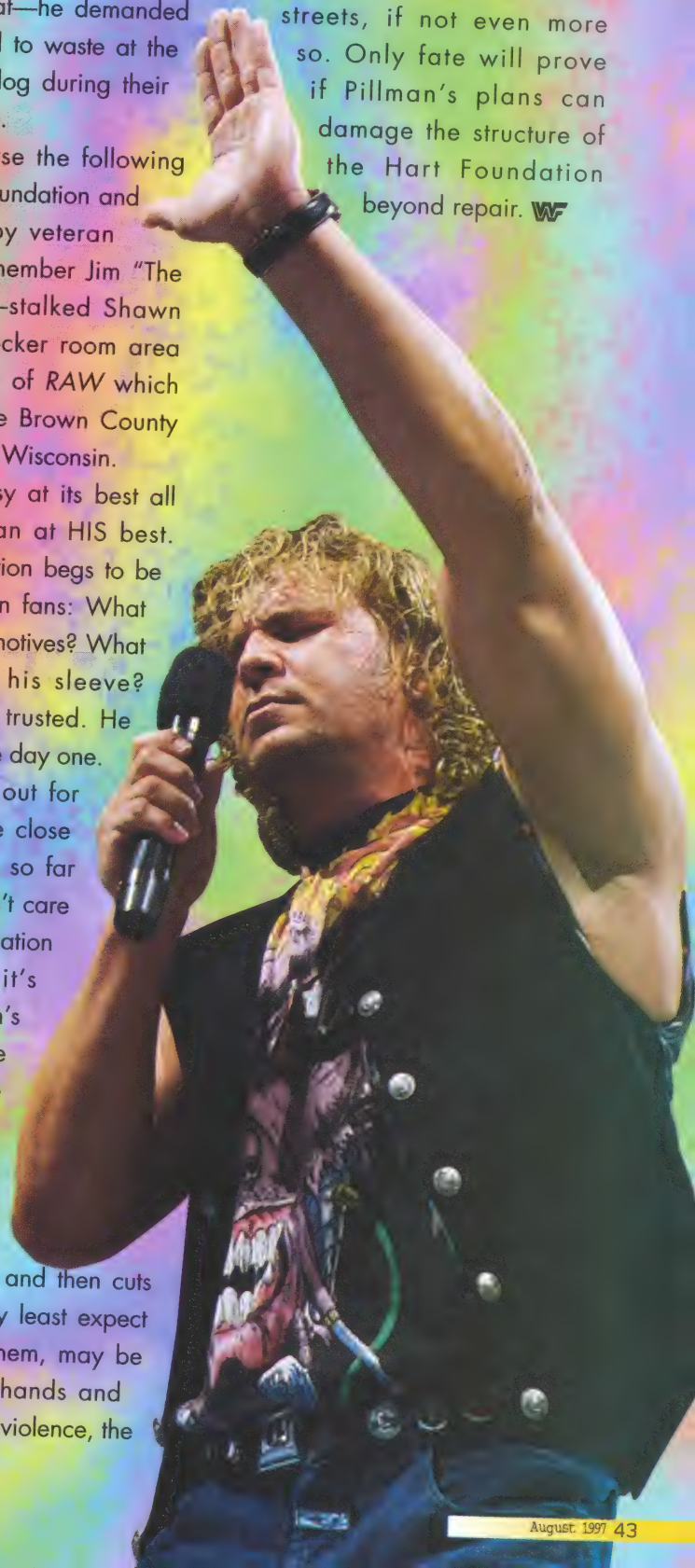
trained him, Bret "Hit Man" Hart. Pillman went one step further. He called the Hart Foundation—the British Bulldog and Owen Hart—to the ring where they knelt and prayed to the Lord Almighty. Pillman asked—scratch that—he demanded that Austin be laid to waste at the hands of the Bulldog during their scheduled matchup.

Things got worse the following week, when the Foundation and Pillman—joined by veteran Hart Foundation member Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart—stalked Shawn Michaels in the locker room area during an episode of *RAW* which originated from the Brown County Expo in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

That's controversy at its best all right. That's Pillman at HIS best. However, one question begs to be asked by Federation fans: What are Brian Pillman's motives? What does he have up his sleeve? Surely he can't be trusted. He has proven that since day one.

Brian Pillman is out for Brian Pillman. Some close to him will even go so far as to say... he doesn't care about the Hart Foundation at all!!! In fact, it's possible that Pillman's closeness with the Harts might have something to do with a double-cross. Pillman is an expert at this. He earns the confidence of people and then cuts them down when they least expect it. The Harts, all of them, may be falling right into his hands and given his penchant for violence, the

result could be career-ending for any member of the Hart Foundation. So, it's quite possible that Brian Pillman has not had a change of heart—nor will he ever. He's as ruthless today as when he was fighting on the streets, if not even more so. Only fate will prove if Pillman's plans can damage the structure of the Hart Foundation beyond repair. **WF**



IN your **House** **RESULTS**

BY KEITH ELLIOT GREENBERG

FREE FOR ALL: In a special contest presented free of charge before the Pay-Per-View, Rockabilly bested Double J Jesse James and then celebrated at ringside with hip-wiggling manager, the Honky Tonk Man.

FLASH FUNK VS. **HUNTER** **HEARST-HELMSLEY**

Funk showed up for this match without his usual consorts, the Funkettes, who reportedly were fearful of a confrontation with Helmsley's brawny female second, Chyna. Sure enough, Chyna injected herself into the contest early, flooring Funk from the rear with a clothesline outside the ring, and belting him with a right when the action returned between the ropes.

But Helmsley miscalculated by diving off the turnbuckles smack into his opponent's extended boot. Funk followed with a high back bodydrop, clothesline, spinning legdrop, reverse cross body block and spinning heel kick. When he tried a Funky Flash Splash, though, Hunter was one step

ahead of the silk-footed dynamo, forcing Flash down across the top turnbuckle as he perched himself on the ropes, delivering a suplex from the strands and getting the duke with the Pedigree.

After the bell, Chyna reinforced the Funkettes' decision to stay home, displaying her uncanny strength by hoisting a battered Funk upside down on one shoulder and dropping him across the top rope.

FLASH FUNK

"Man, I've never seen a cat like that Chyna before!"

HUNTER HEARST-HELMSLEY

"NEXT!"





ROCKY MAIVIA VS. MANKIND

Maivia started off hot, sending Mankind flying from the ring with a dropkick/clothesline combination, surviving a brief surge by his opponent and executing a powerslam. Mankind shifted the tide of the match by delivering a cannonball from the ring apron onto Maivia on the arena floor. But Rocky snapmared Mankind over the top rope, and choke-slammed him on a steel grating outside the ring.

After a shoulder breaker, Maivia ascended the ropes and splattered Mankind with a high cross body block. But Mankind used the youngster's momentum against him, rolling on top of Maivia on the canvas, reaching into the deep recesses of his mouth and snaring the win with the dreaded Mandible Claw.

MANKIND

"That Rocky Maivia may be an up 'n' coming kid... but he DOESN'T LOOK ITALIAN TO ME!!!"



RUNNING THE GAUNTLET: AHMED JOHNSON VS. NATION OF DOMINATION

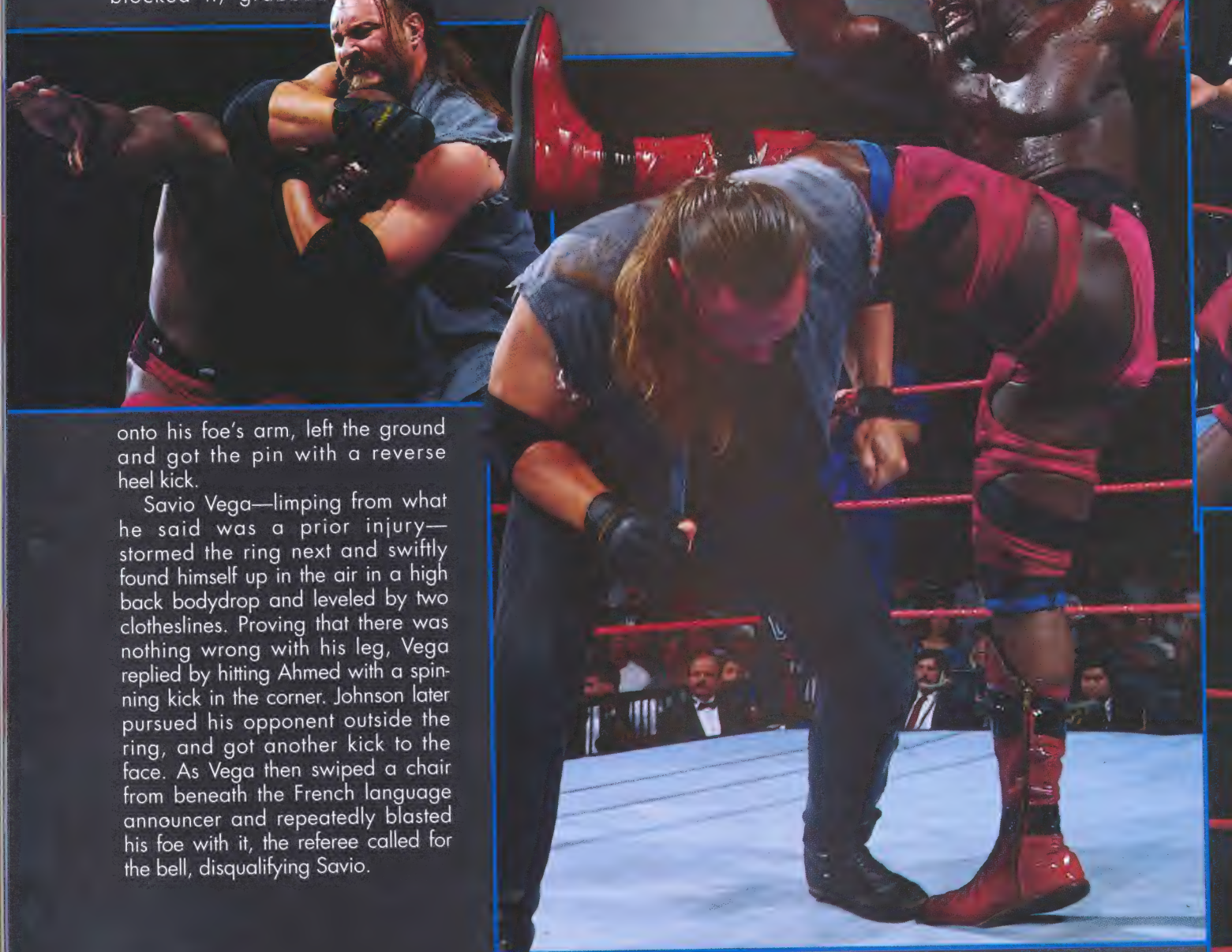
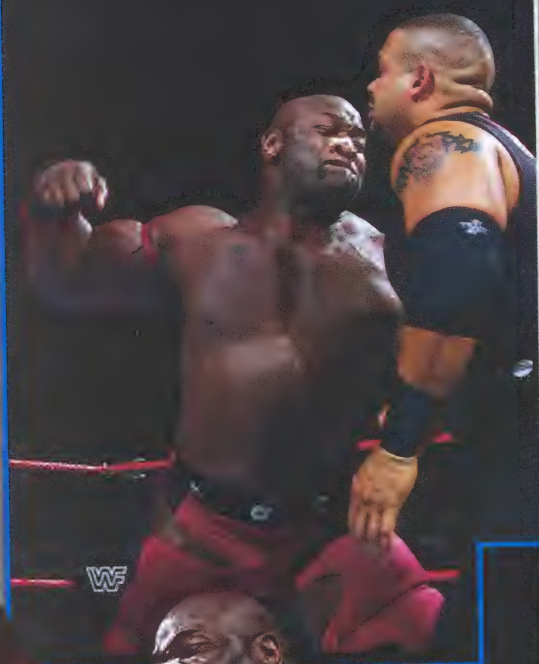
The Nation of Domination—Faarooq, Savio Vega and Crush—promised to disband if Johnson could defeat all three men in successive matchups. Fearing a full-scale assault by the Nation, World Wrestling Federation President Gorilla Monsoon barred its numerous associates from ringside before Ahmed squared off against his first opponent, Crush, who claimed to be recovering from the flu.

Crush was a punishing adversary for the "Pearl River Powerhouse", hurting him with a suplex and piledriver. But when Crush tried a heart punch, Johnson blocked it, grabbed

Johnson was still nursing his wounds on the canvas, when Faarooq stepped through the ropes, holding his arm in a sling. It was quickly apparent that there was nothing wrong with the limb, as Faarooq unleashed a flurry of punches and forearms, complemented by a sequence of kicks. Ahmed countered with a spinebuster and the Pearl River Plunge. But Faarooq's feet hit Johnson in the head on the way down, and a groggy Ahmed only got a two-count. As Johnson

onto his foe's arm, left the ground and got the pin with a reverse heel kick.

Savio Vega—limping from what he said was a prior injury—stormed the ring next and swiftly found himself up in the air in a high back bodydrop and leveled by two clotheslines. Proving that there was nothing wrong with his leg, Vega replied by hitting Ahmed with a spinning kick in the corner. Johnson later pursued his opponent outside the ring, and got another kick to the face. As Vega then swiped a chair from beneath the French language announcer and repeatedly blasted his foe with it, the referee called for the bell, disqualifying Savio.



rose from the mat, Faarooq clipped his opponent's leg from the rear, turned him upside down, slammed his face into the canvas and scored the three-count, ensuring that the Nation of Domination would remain a menacing force in the World Wrestling Federation.

AHMED JOHNSON

"What do you want me to say, G? Faarooq beat me."

FAAROOQ

"Ahmed Johnson has guts, but it's a shame he's so damn stupid!"



NO HOLDS BARRED MATCH: VADER VS. KEN SHAMROCK

Earlier in the evening, ultimate fighting superstar Shamrock had been jumped by Vader and Mankind during an interview, leading to speculation that the World Wrestling Federation newcomer was at less than 100 percent for this match—a grueling contest that could only end via submission or knockout.

Shamrock clearly was the technical master in the ring, kicking at the back of Vader's legs, lifting the gargantuan off the mat in a waistlock and executing a back to back suplex. Shamrock applied a headscissors on the mat, but the powerful Vader managed to work his way into a position where he was crouching on the canvas. When Shamrock refused to release the hold, he was effortlessly tossed over his adversary's shoulders, and then vertically suplexed over the top rope onto the arena floor and avalanched in the corner.

Vader climbed the ropes, moonsaulting toward his oppo-

nent. But Shamrock scampered out of the way, powerslammed his foe and clamped on a half-Boston crab. Exploiting his 200-pound size advantage, Vader knocked down his opponent with a swinging forearm. Without bothering to rise from the mat, Shamrock reached up and tripped Vader, trapped him in an excruciating ankle lock and achieved a submission triumph.

KEN SHAMROCK

"I give a great deal of credit to Vader. That big man put up one hell of a fight! It feels good to get that first W, but I'm not one to rest on my laurels. I'm already looking forward to my next challenger to step up to the ring!"

VADER

"Maybe I underestimated the man, but I welcome the opportunity to bang heads with him again!"



WF
IN your
House



THE UNDERTAKER

(WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION)

VS. STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN

Just as this contest was about to begin, the Hart Foundation—Owen Hart, the British Bulldog, Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart and a wheelchair-bound Bret "Hit Man" Hart—and associate Brian Pillman seated themselves in the front row, casting a threatening shadow over the proceedings.

Within seconds, the Undertaker tossed Austin from the ring, and the Stone Cold One pulled Owen over the guardrail and pounded him. The Undertaker stepped in, slugging Austin, and then punched Owen back into the spectator section.

After both combatants brawled in and out of the ring, zoning in on each other's wheels, Undertaker applied a sleeper to the challenger. Austin reached up, grabbed the back of the champion's head and slid downward, banging the skull into the Undertaker's chin. The titleist retaliated with a chokeslam. Austin fired back with the Stone Cold Stunner.

As Undertaker lay prone on the mat and Austin covered him, the bell unexpectedly rang. Austin stood, perplexed, for a moment and then realized that Pillman had taken it on himself to play timekeeper. But the match was still officially underway, and the challenger turned his attention

back to the champion. However, the distraction had bought the Undertaker time to recover. He lifted Austin for the Tombstone, but the Stone Cold One spun around and flipped Undertaker upside down, setting him up for the same move. Undertaker shifted his weight, ended up on his feet, turned Austin over, delivered the crunching finisher and scored the win.

No sooner had the referee finished counting than Owen, Neidhart, Pillman and the Bulldog stampeded into the ring, beating down the champ. Simultaneously, Austin noticed Bret at ringside and tipped his wheelchair over. Using one of the Hit Man's crutches as a weapon, Austin raced into the ring and chased off his opponent's attackers. Then—furious that he'd been beaten under such controversial conditions—he knocked out the Undertaker with the Stone Cold Stunner. **WF**

STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN

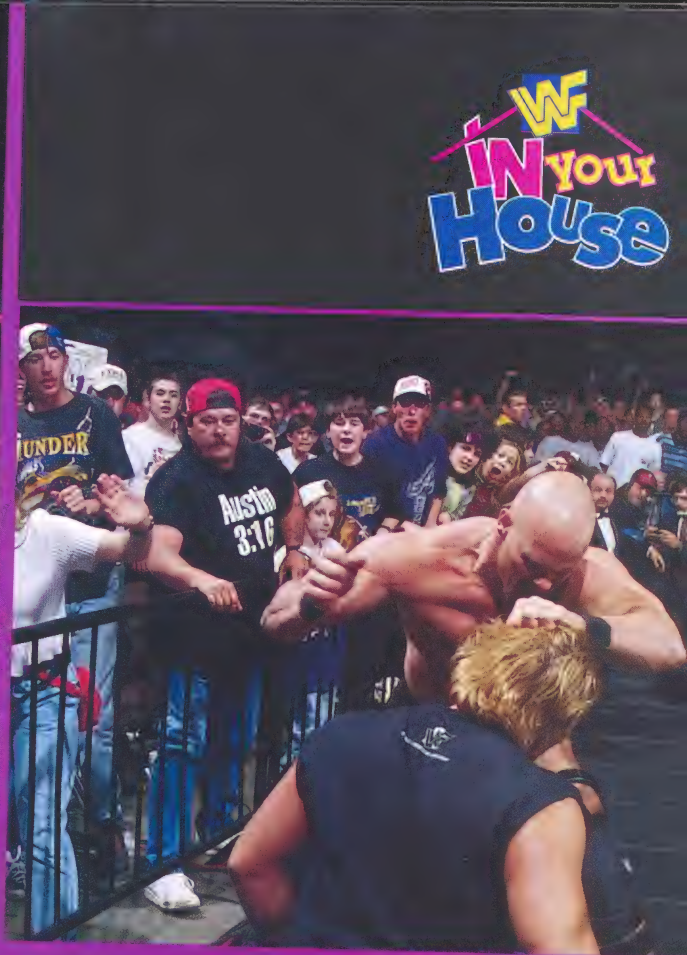
"Make no excuses, the Undertaker is one tough !@#\$! But the bottom line is, SON, one day Steve Austin will be the World Wrestling Federation Champion, and that's the bottom line because Stone Cold said so!"

THE UNDERTAKER

"A tainted victory it was, but when you're competing against a wolverine like Stone Cold Steve Austin... you take it any way you can. My crypt remains open, and I would gladly grant him a rematch at his request."



WWE
IN your
House



STRIDEX® WF® **SUMMER SLAM® '97: TEN**



The World Wrestling Federation was a drastically different place in 1988. The grappling fraternity was abuzz with news of Superstar Billy Graham turning his talents to managing "The Rock" Don Muraco. Outlaw Ron Bass and popular Brutus "The Barber" Beefcake were embroiled in a nasty feud, after Bass brutalized his rival with a bullwhip known as Miss Betsy. Shawn Michaels was purely a tag team wrestler, combining his skills with Marty Jannetty in the legendary duo called the Rockers.

On August 29 of that year at New York's Madison Square Garden, the World Wrestling Federation unveiled its very first SummerSlam. It was a bit of a risk. Fans were already digesting WrestleMania each spring and the Survivor Series every fall. Was the wrestling public ready for another Pay-Per-View?

10 YEARS IN THE MAKING

By Keith Elliot Greenberg



The answer was a resounding yes. After two months of kicking back at the beach or in the woods, mat devotees craved one final blast before the summer ended. When the titans step into the ring for the tenth annual *SummerSlam* this year, spectators will take part in an event that has become an institution in the sport of kings. Today, along with *WrestleMania*—the Super Bowl of professional wrestling—*SummerSlam* ranks as a must-see. Wrestlers with a score to settle or a reputation to make bid their time until August when they turn it loose in front of the whole world at *SummerSlam*.

The **1988** card saw the Mega-Powers—World Wrestling Federation Champion Randy "Macho Man" Savage and Hulk Hogan—mix it up with the

late Andre the Giant and "Million Dollar Man" Ted DiBiase in the main event. Andre's team appeared to be winning, when the rival duo pulled a fast one. The lovely Elizabeth—Savage's love

STRIDEX **SUMMERSLAM**

interest and the manager of the Mega-Powers—unhooked her skirt and tossed it at the team's rivals, distracting them long enough to rally Hogan and Savage to victory. Interestingly, Elizabeth's charms would soon have an unexpected effect on the Mega-Powers, pitting the jealous Macho Man against his partner.

An even bigger story was the stunning 28-second Intercontinental Title victory by last-minute substitute contender, the Ultimate Warrior, over the man who had held the championship longer than any other wrestler, the Honky Tonk Man—a loss the pompadoured bad boy has yet to live down.

A year later, the Ultimate Warrior was an ex-Intercontinental Champion, having lost the strap to Ravishing Rick Rude. But *SummerSlam* appeared to be the intergalactic gladiator's lucky event. He recaptured the belt from Rude at the **1989** extravaganza.

On the same card, Hulk Hogan—who had toppled Savage for the World Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Championship at *WrestleMania V*—was involved in a very peculiar tag team match, joining forces with Beefcake against the Macho Man and Zeus. Zeus was an actor who had clashed with Hogan in the wrestling movie *No Holds Barred*. But then, the thespian began taking his role too seriously. At *SummerSlam '89*, he went down in flames.

Having failed to procure the World Wrestling Federation Tag Team Championship at *SummerSlam '88*, the original Hart Foundation, Bret "Hit Man" Hart and Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart, snared the belts from Demolition at the **1990** spectacular. In the main event, the Ultimate Warrior again beat Rude, but this time the stakes were different; the Warrior was the World Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Champion, having defeated Hogan at *WrestleMania VI*.

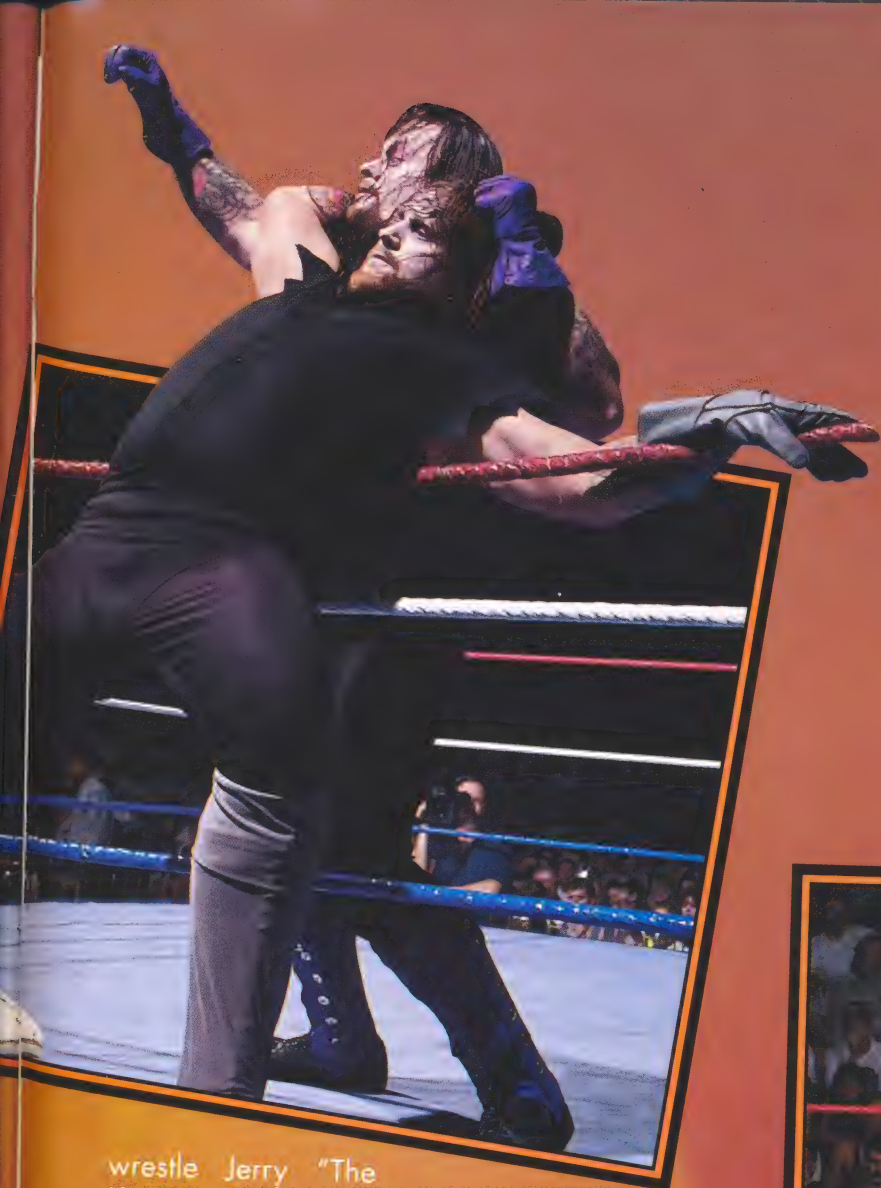
In another celebrated match, World Wrestling Federation newcomer "Texas Tornado" Kerry Von Erich won the Intercontinental strap from Mr. Perfect. Experts predicted great things for the Texas Tornado, but by **1993** he had become one of the mat game's saddest stories, committing suicide after leaving the World Wrestling Federation due to a drug problem.



In **1991**, Bret Hart picked up one more championship—the Intercontinental belt—in his ascension to greatness. While the triumph created a buzz around the wrestling world, it was overshadowed in the press by the in-the-ring marriage of Savage to Elizabeth. At the ceremony that followed, the Macho Man was attacked by the Undertaker and his manager at the time, Paul Bearer, while Jake "The Snake" Roberts menaced the bride with a live cobra.

SummerSlam shifted locations to England in **1992**, with 80,355 fans packing London's Wembley Stadium. While they cheered as the Undertaker gained a disqualification victory over the Ugandan headhunter, Kamala, and the Legion of Doom bested the team of DiBiase and Irwin R. Schyster, their main interest was the British Bulldog's challenge to Bret Hart's Intercontinental Championship. After a half-hour of heart-stopping action, the famed stadium exploded in joy as the Bulldog reversed a sunset flip to win the crown.

Hart took the defeat gracefully. But at *SummerSlam '93*, fans would see a side of the Hit Man he didn't like to reveal. Bret was scheduled to



wrestle Jerry "The King" Lawler, but Lawler came to the ring on crutches, claiming to be injured. Doink the Clown was dispatched to the squared circle as a replacement. Hit Man thrashed the substitute grappler, forcing him to submit to the Sharpshooter, then he was jumped by Lawler, who'd been feigning his injury. Blinded by anger, Bret placed his tormentor in the Sharpshooter—and refused to let go even after officials poured into the ring.

Yokozuna was the World Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Champion at the time, but most fans were certain they'd witness a title change at the Pay-Per-View. Popular Lex Luger had spent the summer touring the country in a bus, called the "Lex Express", building momentum for his *SummerSlam* challenge against the monstrous former sumo star. In the clash, Luger managed to knock out the champion with a forearm, sending him flying outside the ring. Yokozuna lay on the arena floor for nearly 20 minutes. He was counted out of the match, but as a title can only change hands via pinfall or submission Yoko remained the Federation Champion.



1994 saw the most bizarre *SummerSlam* match in its history: the Undertaker vs. the Undertaker. The real Man from the Dark Side—the current holder of the gold in the World Wrestling Federation—was challenged by a double managed by DiBiase. As fans watched spellbound, the genuine Undertaker vanquished the pretender with a Tombstone and then stuffed him in a coffin for good measure.

In another unusual matchup, Bret Hart—in his second reign as World Wrestling Federation

STRIDEX **WF** SUMMERSLAM

Champion — fought his brother Owen in a steel cage. The united front the Hart Foundation projects today appears suspect when one considers the behavior of the various members during this contest. Not only did the Hart brothers tear into each other, but brothers-in-law Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart and the Bulldog interfered — Neidhart for Owen, Bulldog for Bret. The finish saw Owen and Neidhart lock Bret in the cage and pummel him until the Bulldog and other family members ran them off.

The card the following year will be remembered for one classic matchup: World Wrestling Federation Intercontinental Champion Shawn Michaels vs. Razor Ramon. Once before, the two had attempted to settle their differences in a ladder match, one of the most grueling confrontations in World Wrestling Federation history. This time, in a more brutal encounter, the duo again fought their way up and down a ladder, each straining to reach the Intercontinental belt suspended from the ceiling. Near the end of the match, Ramon pulled a second ladder from beneath the ring, propped it up in the squared circle and began climbing. Michaels dropkicked his foe from the first ladder, then dove from the metal stairway, snatched the belt out of the air and was declared the victor.

Michaels' career was skyrocketing. He came into *SummerSlam '96* as the World Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Champion, taking on the dangerous Vader in the main event. Vader held the size and weight advantage and at times seemed to beat his opponent as if he were a helpless child. But the Heartbreak Kid was anything but helpless. As soon as he noticed a hint of vulnerability on Vader's part, it was exploited. When Vader tried a moonsault, Michaels slipped out of the way, then leveled his adversary with a backward somersault from the top rope, retaining the championship.

Shawn's win should have been the talk of the night, but it wasn't. On the same card, the Undertaker and Mankind engaged in a life and death struggle in a boiler room in the arena, fighting all the way to the ring, where Undertaker's manager, Paul Bearer, shattered their six-year relationship by blasting his protege with the source of the Undertaker's power, his urn.

Since last year, the complexion of the World Wrestling Federation has dramatically shifted. The Heavyweight Championship has changed hands five times. Michaels briefly left the sport of kings, under doctor's orders, and then realized he couldn't stay away. An organization called the Nation of Domination took form, capitalizing on the very worst of race relations in America. Bret Hart turned against his fans in the United States.

No one knows what will transpire at *SummerSlam '97*, but there is no doubt that ten years from now, fans will still be talking excitedly about the milestones of this annual extravaganza. **WF**





BARRED

FROM the BACK

Now, this may... or may not... be true, but I, the INFORMER, am told that there is a great deal of animosity building up between HILLBILLY JIM and PHINEAS and HENRY GODWINN. Rumor has it that both PHINNY and HANK are tired of being thought of as "country bumpkins", and that the two feel it's the reputation of Hillbilly that has put them in that light! Supposedly, the situation came to a head after the LEGION OF DOOM cracked the neck of HENRY in the finish of a SHOTGUN SATURDAY NIGHT match. After rushing HENRY to the emergency room, cousin PHINEAS vowed revenge, while HILLBILLY was quoted as saying, "I'm sure those good ol' boys didn't mean it! Heck, I'm sure they'll send some

chocolates and a bunch of flowers by mornin'!" Welllll (as HAWK would say), obviously the flowers and the sweets never came, but what did was a closed door meeting between the cousins... and the cousins only. What exactly was discussed remains a secret at this time, but something tells me, THE INFORMER, all is not well in Mudlick!... Remember a few weeks back on RAW IS WAR when the UNDERTAKER mentioned that he was going to open his "VAULT OF LOST SOULS"? Well, get ready for the lid to be blown off the sucker ANY DAY NOW!!!... Look for a LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT DIVISION to be starting in the World Wrestling Federation soon. Rumor has it that the Federation may have already slated WRESTLEMANIA XIV as the

setting for a champion to be crowned... Don't be surprised to see a change in "attitude" from ROCKY MAIVIA in the coming months. Sources tell me that the third-generation superstar has grown tired of the UNDESERVED criticism from the fans of the World Wrestling Federation, and that he may take "drastic" measures" to quiet his critics—once and for all!!!!... GOLDUST, a/k/a DUSTIN RUNNELS, may have to open up his closet once again when a figure from his past informs him that "they have some unfinished business to attend to!"... Could there possibly be a new member added to the HART FOUNDATION? Read all about it in the current issue of RAW MAGAZINE!!! Until next time... this has been... the INFORMER. **W**



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WORLD WRESTLING FEDERAT

? PIN 'EM DOWN

Dear Rocky Maivia,
Since you were offered the prestigious status of "High Chief" back in your homeland of Samoa, what made you come to the World Wrestling Federation instead?

Carrie Monahan
Manville, New Jersey

Well, Carrie, it took a lot for me to turn down that offer from my people back home. I thought long and hard about it, and I came to the conclusion that at this point in my life there were other things that I needed to do. My decision to compete in the World Wrestling Federation allows me to carry on my family name in the ring, and that is an honor more sacred to me than anything else I could ever dream of achieving in my life!

Dear Hunter Hearst-Helmsley,
Being a man of such refinement, how can you possibly find yourself with such a "beast" as Chyna?

Debra Wilson
Lynchburg, Ohio

First of all, you pathetic excuse for a woman, don't EVER talk about Chyna in that manner! How a behemoth like yourself can sit on your gargantuan derriere, stuff cookies down your throat and have the energy to even generate a pathetic letter such as this is beyond me! To put it simply—I view Chyna as a woman who has gone out and accomplished what all other woman in the world only wish they could!



Dear Bret "Hit Man" Hart,
In the past few months, you've said that you no longer respect any of the American fans. However, what about the American fans who still continue to cheer you?

Dayton Scaffer
Roseville, Michigan

Quite frankly, Dayton, I don't care if the American fans cheer me or not! I've said all along that it's going to take a lot more than a few cheering American fans for my opinions to change. Every American fan in every arena could tell me they are sorry, but it wouldn't add up to a hill of spit unless their values change along with their apologies!

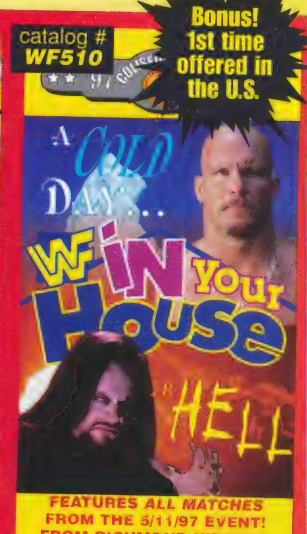
Dear Mankind,
You mentioned in a recent interview that you have children! Is this true, or just another one of your mind puzzles? Because I doubt there is a woman out there who would be attracted to you!

Jeffrey Kent
San Francisco, California

Little Jeffrey... HOW MANY TIMES HAS YOUR MOTHER TOLD YOU NOT TO QUESTION ADULTS?! Yes, I do have little rug rats running around my basement, but NOT THE KIND YOU WOULD WANT TO PUT IN YOUR CRIB! But isn't that a beautiful thought, Jeffrey? Someday there may be MORE THAN ONE MANKIND RUNNING AROUND IN YOUR WORLD! Have a nice day!



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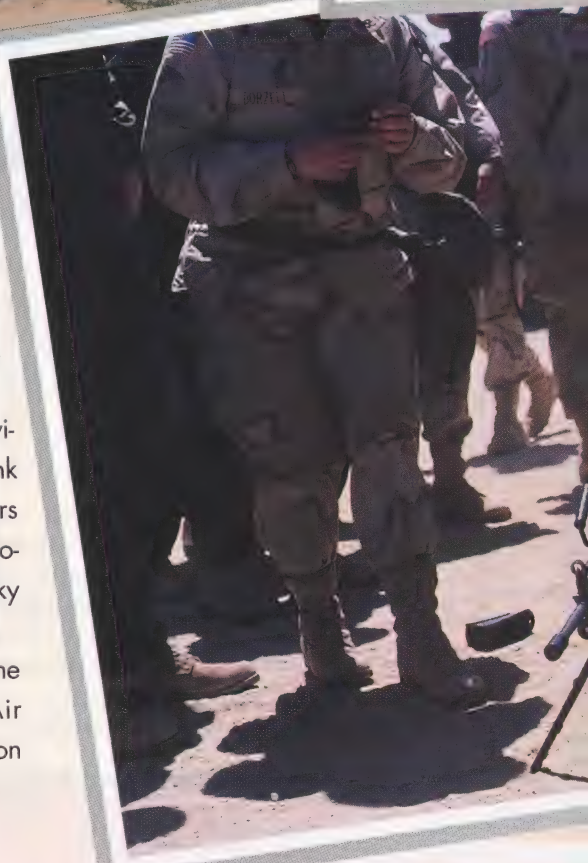
SO... WHEN DOES T



During the World Wrestling Federation's international tour of Kuwait this past April, several superstars—including the Hart Foundation, Rockabilly and Bob "Spark Plugg" Holly—took a tour of Camp Doha, the U.S. military base 85 miles outside of Kuwait City. The installation, which saw its share of action during Desert Storm, is now the home to hundreds of destroyed tanks from the Gulf War.

Rockabilly, who is seen in the picture atop one of the armored divisions, was a first-hand witness to what the U.S. soldiers call the "Tank Graveyard". During the Persian Gulf War, thousands of Iraqi soldiers abandoned these fighting machines after running out of ammo and gasoline. Now, the rusted tanks serve as a tourist attraction for those lucky enough to journey into the desert.

Bob "Spark Plugg" Holly, on the other hand, opted to stick closer to the base and visit with the 571st Medical Detachment and their Air Evacuation Unit. These large choppers serve as emergency transportation

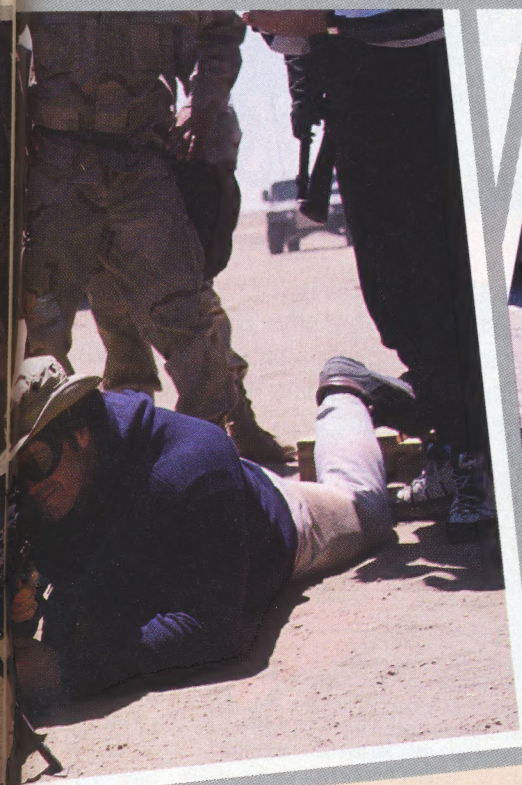


THE TIDE ROLL IN?



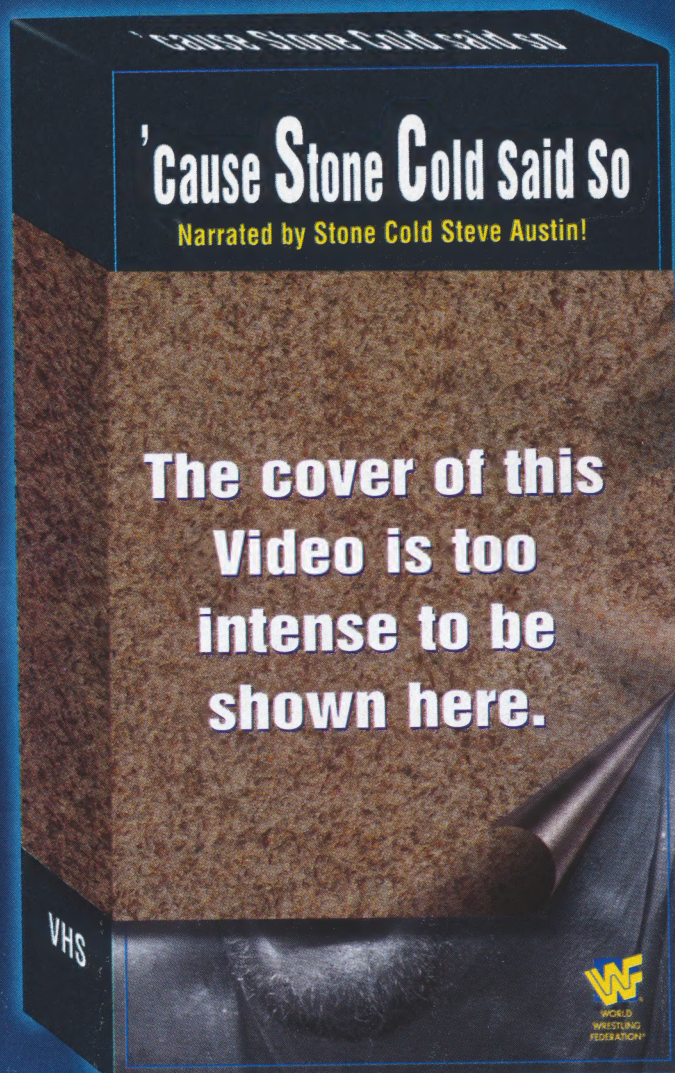
for soldiers wounded in the battlefields. Holly not only learned all about the aircraft, but also received a ride across the sands in one.

Finally, it was the Hart Foundation's turn to get the complimentary tour of Camp Doha! First, Owen and the Bulldog got to ride on a Bradley Fighting Machine—a smaller version of the base's standard Battle Tanks. As you can see, Davey Boy was able to get a look at the large rounds used on the tank's guns while Owen was given instructions on driving the vehicle. Bret also got in on the action, as he proved his prowess at being a true "Sharpshooter" while firing the unit's SAWs (Squad Automatic Weapons). **WF**



He's The Meanest S.O.B. In The World Wrestling Federation®

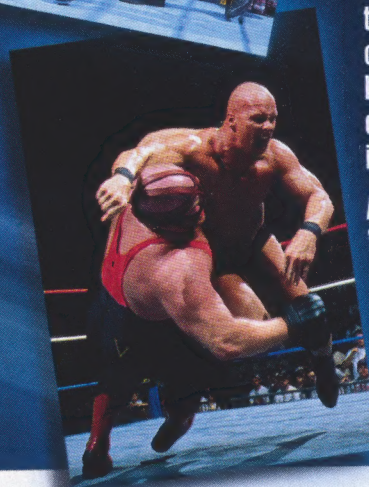
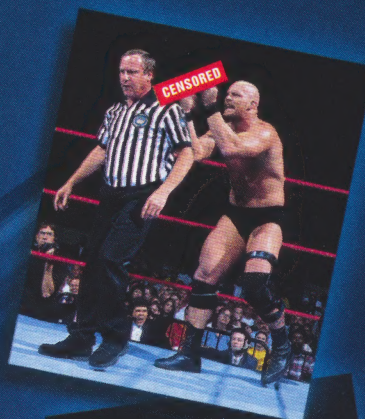
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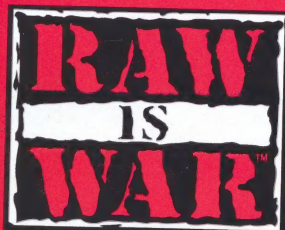


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